

# Example Personal Statements 21-22

Examples of real statements written by ex-students over the past few years

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These are for ideas only.

Please also check out the Personal Statement Pre-record resources

Subject Guides (with subject specific personal statement advice)

## **PS Accountancy and Finance**

I would like to study Accountancy and Finance at university as I have family who work in this industry; through seeing their work it has inspired me to follow the same career path as I also have a broad interest in the subject. By reading up about accountancy it has encouraged me further to study this subject as the analytics' and management of money widely interest me. Furthermore, I think a university education would broaden my social and intellectual horizons greatly to prepare me for my future career.

Economics has greatly interested me in how it affects the real world. Viewing how economics is related to every country around the world and the ways it affects their standard of living has also massively inspired me. I specifically enjoy macroeconomics because of this reason. However, I also have a passion for microeconomics as I appreciate viewing the effects that macroeconomics can have upon microeconomics; comparing these effects I see as one of my strong points. I work analytically when comparing the two which I also use throughout the whole course to further compare single markets. Within IT I work conscientiously in my assignments to ensure I meet all grades on the first deadline to prevent me having to resubmit. Throughout my assignments I manage my time efficiently to ensure I complete and double check before the deadline date. By using this technique, I often find that I never miss anything out on my assignments and hit the full grades first time. I have also found studying Geography has been useful, particularly when considering case studies and impact on the global environment. I have found this overlaps into my Economic studies effectively.

Throughout my life I have always been eager to learn. In my own time I do a lot of outside reading and independent study. I motivate my independent study by setting goals to achieve; I carry this technique through all of my courses as well as in day to day life. Specifically, for economics I read the news everyday so I can relate my class work to real world situations. For IT I often teach myself detailed information about the assignments I am currently on; such as when I was suggesting a computer system for my client to launch an online transactional website I further researched the components needed and explanations of how they work using books in the library. Through doing this I will have further knowledge of my subjects which will help me strive to have a more accurate understanding my subjects in ways that my peers may not; I will bring this technique of outside reading into my university work which I know will help further with my studies similarly as it is to my A levels.

I currently work in ASDA part time while studying. This has been a challenge for me that I have overcome greatly by managing my time efficiently to ensure I complete all aspects of my work both inside and outside of college without falling behind. While working at ASDA I have gained team skills as I work in the chilled department with a big group of staff. We work effectively together to ensure we get all our delivery done by the deadline. I work an early morning showing that I am committed despite involving unsociable hours. Recently I have also been managing my department while staff were away. From this I learnt how to coordinate different members of my team to ensure we met the objectives set by my store manager. Also, from this work I have learned people skills as I speak and help customers with any enquiries quickly and efficiently.

I enjoy listening to music both in my free time and during my work. I believe that it makes me further focus on my work if I quietly have music playing in the background. This also helps me do work more quickly than when I am without as it inspires my creativity.

Overall I would be a good candidate for university as I have the skills acquired to be a successful graduate. Accountancy and Finance is the career path I would like to proceed into once I graduate.

## **PS Accountancy Business Finance**

I am hoping to pursue a degree in the areas of Accountancy, Business and Finance for a number of reasons. I have always enjoyed the numerical side of maths using formula and algorithms. I am also very keen to be a success in life. I believe I have a go-getting personality and would have the whole package to do well in a business environment. I am open minded to try new ways of thinking and consider other people's beliefs and views. I always enjoy embracing new concepts and ideas and try not to start any endeavor without prejudice or preconceptions.

While in year 10, I undertook work experience in a local car insurance business where I was involved in customer relations and on a basic, but useful level about the business, which piqued my interest. My father is a sales executive and I am aware that as well as financial skills you also require good communication skills to succeed and grow a business.

In light of the Brexit vote I have been more interested in the impact of politics on business and the economy. Last week in the news I was very interested to read that unemployment is at its lowest since 1975 which thus far goes against the predicted impact, although we have a long way to go to see the overall impact and I am aware that these statistics may be more around part-time work than full-time. I am also becoming aware that political rumours can have an impact on the stock market and the economy.

At the weekend I work in an independent bar and again am very interested in the business and finance side of things. I am very aware that customer service is critical in a business survival especially with social media. A poor review can have a devastating impact on an independent business. With this in mind I have started reading Freakanomics by xxxxxxxxx which discusses xxxxxxxxxx.

My career goal would be to own my own business. I am very interested in the growing street food scene and could potentially go down this route. However, I am aware that I need to gain business and finance knowledge and experience first.

I am a very happy, sociable and outgoing individual who always gives 100% to any task in hand. As an example, I have recently single handedly organized a group of 13 to go on holiday to Croatia. It involved a lot of organizing finances for accommodation, transfers and plane tickets, which I organized on an Excel spreadsheet. I also had to liaise with various companies and everything went smoothly. I was very interested in Croatia as an up and coming travel destination in light of their previous political and financial turmoil. It will be interesting to see if as they become more popular the prices rise especially in light of certain destinations like Turkey, Egypt and Tunisia being less desirable these days.

I have always valued and enjoyed extra-curricular activities. I completed a Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award. I have also played in a football team since the age of 10. I currently play for Cuckfield Rangers, a local men's team. I believe that being part of a football team has given me a good team player ethic, which can be shown when working and playing. I have also learnt to deal with difficult people with good grace and also can bounce back after knock backs. I would be very interested in joining the University football team and would throw myself into being a keen asset to the university.

I am committed, motivated and ready for hard-work and further study. I hope you will consider me as a candidate for a course in higher education.

## **PS Accountancy and Finance**

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## PS Anthropology

Anthropology encompasses all of my interests. Dipping into Thomas Hyland Eriksen's 'Small Places, Large Issues' increased my desire to understand humanity and the complexities within the modern and pre-modern world on a macro and micro level. Through the study of Anthropology, I will not only gain understanding of the attributes of being human through field work and scientific and theoretical enquiry, but I will also develop transferable skills which I can use outside of university. I hope it will challenge any pre-conceived notions I may have and expand my world view for the rest of my life.

After going to an all girls Catholic school in London and then moving to a mixed gender school in East Sussex not only exposed me to a wider diversity of people, it also made me question the effect of gender and religion on society. I began to reflect on this at college as an active participant debates and discussions in the feminist society at BHASVIC, which motivated me to take part in the 'reclaim the night' march in Brighton, a local event which elucidated the large global issues of gender in society. Furthermore, I recently attended a lecture called 'The Making of a Salafi Muslim Woman' by Anabel Inge (a religious anthropologist at SOAS) about Salafi women living in Britain. I was fascinated as to how close anthropological study and fieldwork provide such insight about its subjects, in this case a fast growing Islamic group whose female voices are largely silenced.

My A-levels, really affirmed my interest and growing curiosity in anthropology. As part of my Classics A-level course, I read 'Histories' by Herodotus, who is widely considered to be the first historian, and arguably, anthropologist. His close study of the Persians and the Greeks explored how humans define themselves through their differences and their race, as this gives them a sense of belonging. In English Literature I studied the poetry of TS Elliot and Thomas Hardy. Both poets explore the disillusionment and depression in Britain after WW2, and the loss of faith after the publication of Darwin's 'Origin of Species'. We studied the negative impacts of modernism and mass production, as it separated humans from nature and people lost their sense of community. It led me to consider the importance of human's relationship with their environment, and the extent to which religion increases happiness and a sense of purpose and community. Fine Art led me to examine alternative interpretations of the world throughout the centuries through visual and material expression, and led me to wonder why material culture is so important to humans. Peter Doig is the artist who inspired my final piece; he investigated the significance of place and landscapes to humans, and how it shapes their identity.

Studying English Literature at A-level taught me to write well structured, articulate, and correctly referenced essays. The coursework included an independent dissertation, including research on a text, developing comparative and evaluative skills, structuring my own time and meeting set deadlines. I chose to focus the subjective human experience, and how different childhoods, races and class can change a human's perception of reality- a fundamental concept in anthropology.

Having four different jobs since the age of 15 means I've developed strong communication skills, and understand the importance of punctuality, attendance and being a hardworking, reliable and friendly member of a team.

I have been privileged to visit many countries including most recently, Costa Rica, this summer. It is one of the most bio-diverse countries on the planet and I became sensitised to the complexity of how humans have been conditioned to view animals, and how some are earmarked for conservation, some for food and some for companionship. I am also planning to go to South America for four months during this gap year.

I am ready and committed to enter higher education and look forward to the challenges, and rewards, this will bring.

## PS Architecture

My appreciation for architecture came from a melding between maths and art and my desire to work at both the subjects simultaneously. Living between South Africa and the UK when I was younger allowed me to see how the places people interact with day to day influences their actions and dispositions, the ability of design to manipulate simple structures to create an ardent response is something I'm hugely fascinated in. I have always been astonished by buildings be it any shape or size.

Over the past years, I have developed precision and accuracy in technical drawing from a life drawing portfolio course and evening classes which would reflect onto the design elements of the course. Visual stimuli such as scale models is something I have newly been immersing myself in and tying it into the skills I learnt studying physics such as structural integrity and dependence on moments. Buildings which incorporate sustainability and are ecological show a continuously progressive nature for society and stems to the branches of architecture that I would be vastly intrigued to explore. I acquired a taste for landscape architecture following work experience at Andy Sturgeon Designs, I was thrilled to see the way the natural world can be intertwined with urban design and how small aspects of greenery can be embedded in already built structures: this is the most auspicious part of architecture to me.

Looking at once futuristic design took me to Barcelona. Gaudi's structures such as Casa Milà and La Sagrada Família emphasise intricate manipulation of light and detailed form of which I have studied fervently to apply to my own works and to influence my adoration for art, the Catalan modernism combined with gothics style reminded me of cities I've toured in northern Italy and Malta. Further research prompted me to discover Le Corbusier; his denial of set types of architecture is apparent throughout 'Towards a New Architecture', I found this an interesting read with his views being reflected in his pioneering building designs and concepts for the then future using fundamentally resourcefulness and efficiency. The aspect of using sleek but simple shapes is something I believe to be coherent in simple design and is reinforced by his use of regulating lines and idea that 'beauty is always present when you have proportion'; this is completely contrasted by Zaha Hadid's spectacular curved buildings. I was further fascinated by watching the 'Zaha Hadid: Who Dares Win' documentary and I would like to look more into the effectiveness of straight, level shapes against irregular configurations.

My intrigue in practical making led me to work towards the gold crest award by participating in the Greenpower electric car team in College, the engineering aspect taught me to think of all sections of a build but I focused mainly on rendering the appearance of the car for practicality, here I learnt the technicalities of CAD. I got the opportunity to look more at how the inside of a building engages with its façade from work experience with interior designer Katherine Richards.

I am very intrinsically motivated, having played violin for eight years I have developed self-discipline, I am currently teaching myself bass guitar in addition to French, primarily to fuel my desire to comprehend another language. A vital part of architecture is time management and the ability to engage as a group, I loved the team aspects of the Duke of Edinburgh bronze award with working together to problem solve and overcome any sudden difficulties like a change in route. I also built up teamwork in a multitude of sports teams and coaching younger players which helped me learn to adjust to others needs, similar to volunteering for the scouts.

Assisting to the needs of others is something I'm very passionate about and would like to do so through the means of architecture.

## PS Architecture

I am a keen learner and eager to further my knowledge in Architecture. With a genuine eye for creativity, a burning desire for capturing urban culture and an eager attitude towards building design, I believe this course is the perfect way to embark into a career in Architecture. For me, the course ignites pure, unbridled enthusiasm, encouraging me to learn more about the subject, and make it a prioritised element in my life. Growing up in a busy and exciting city like Brighton, it's the architecture that has always inspired me, through ever-changing characteristics and its constant redefinition.

Being surrounded by architecture, developing landscapes, and an emerging city my whole life meant I knew from a young age that architecture has always had my full attention, I have always been sketching buildings and embracing the urban environment. So far I have spent a week in Guernsey, working with a local architecture practice, this taught me the reality behind life in a real office. I was able to sit in on project meetings, attend site visits, and work with software such as Vectorworks. I also have up-coming work experience in Brighton, to try and use my gap year to be as proactive and productive as possible. I plan to travel in early 2020, to explore different cultures, and learn more about our amazing planet.

My A-Levels consisted of Geography, Business Studies and Graphic Design, three fascinating subjects. Through Graphic Design, I had the privilege of working alongside other creators, learning and sharing ideas. I practiced a range of mediums, from Photoshop to model making, experimenting independently to produce high quality outcomes. The satisfying intensity of the course taught me to meet deadlines and keep up to date with my projects. Through Geography I enhanced my skills in the physical and human factors of the world, studying economies, global change and geographical elements, opening my eyes to the environmental issues waiting to be addressed. My Business Studies have enabled me to build confidence in sharing and presenting ideas, working as a team to solve problems, and thinking both practically and efficiently whilst decision making.

Outside of BHASVIC I enjoy socialising with friends and family, and love challenging myself to step out of my comfort zone, I believe this has been encouraged through my work as a beach lifeguard, an exciting job role that has granted me the opportunity to learn key skills around leadership, team work and communication. Not only this but the role has given me fantastic opportunities to work with amazing people, listen to their stories, and learn from them. I maintain a healthy and fast-paced lifestyle, which I support through regular exercise as well as through my love for music, attending live events, and sports like sea-swimming, running and surfing.

In June of 2017 I gained my National Pool Lifeguarding Qualification (NPLQ) and shortly after, my SLSCBQ, which I used to work on Brighton beach over the previous two summers. These qualifications have also given me the opportunity to work for festivals and events, lecture school **students** and volunteer as a surf lifesaving instructor. My qualifications regarding lifesaving and first aid care are very important achievements to me, as they are symbol of my personally earned assets that I pushed myself to achieve. On this journey I have met fantastic people, made valuable friends, and learnt through something that sparked a passion, triggering genuine fulfilment.

My expectations for this course are that I will learn more, not just about the subject but about myself, as I discover a new city, new people and a new life. With this degree I would like to join an Architecture firm to practice my newly acquired skills, and eventually start my own firm with my passion and drive for posing as a positive change to the world we live in, I thoroughly believe that the door to this desired goal is highly achievable through this course.

## PS Art History

Throughout history, art has been a reflection of mankind and the political and cultural civilisations of the time. As early as the Chauvet Cave paintings 30,000 BCE people have been leaving their mark on this world in the form of art, the importance of art has been prominent throughout history up to present day, continuing to influence and inspire into the future of humankind. Whether they are ideological, political or social, art in my opinion has been one of the honest ways of expressing one's own views of the world. Art has been a hobby of mine from a young age, often creating my own artwork and photography. Growing up visiting art galleries around England and Europe has influenced my passion to work in the art industry, My long-term enjoyment for the subject and passion for modern and medieval history has led me to eagerly pursue a degree in the history of art. I see myself as a student who is driven and determined for success in her studies, approaches all work with ambition and is both creative and academic.

Following GCSEs, I took A-level subjects I found were both inexhaustibly interesting and would be useful for my future degree in the history of art. This included Photography, enabling me to improve my creative analytical skills, presentation and develop my perspective of a wide range of art mediums. Studying modern history, benefitted my critical thinking and research ability to ground a persuasive argument confidently with other students. My last area of study included English Literature, exploring a vast variety of texts including poetry from as early as the Jacobean era to the present, gaining an impressive vocabulary as well as perfecting my essay writing ability. In my second year of college I enrolled myself in a portfolio French course which has greatly benefitted my speaking, reading and understanding in the language. I look forward to gain a broad knowledge of art history and to develop an expertise in analysing and interoperating visual images ranging from medieval to the present.

My passion for the history of art is prominent in my social life and hobbies; my love for art galleries began after visiting the spectacular Dalí Theatre-Museum in Figueras, Spain where my appreciation for art and history grew substantially. 'Galatea of the spheres' was one of my favourite pieces by surrealist painter Dalí, I was inspired by his god-like paintings of his muse Gala, addressing her as 'Galatea' a sea nymph in classical tales of Greek mythology renowned for her virtue, satirically contrasting with Galas promiscuous reputation in the art world. Dalí's work deeply influenced my passion for the 20th-century avant-garde movement. Since this experience, I have visited various galleries in London, Brighton and Sweden and each visit has enhanced my desire to work as an archivist. Besides art I have always been passionate about sport. During my time in secondary school I took part in various tournaments in football, rugby, ultimate frisbee, netball, stoolball and athletics often winning sprint competitions. I have always been a competitive team player and am very proud of my success in sport.

I have worked as a shop assistant for nearly 3 years, developing excellent customer service skills and ability to work as a team member and manage paid work as well as academic studies. Working as bar-staff/waitress in a restaurant has improved my communication skills and ability to work in a fast pace environment whilst under pressure. I have always been an enthusiastic worker who is able to work with stamina and intelligence, often helping training new staff members from which I have gained confidence in guiding others.

My interest in the history of art is routed in my desired career as an archivist and curator, I believe this degree will give me insight into the industry, what path I should take and what my future in art could entail as well as the pleasure of studying a subject I have always been deeply passionate about.



## PS Biochemistry

I would love to study biochemistry at university, to enhance my understanding of the underlying chemical processes that allow for human existence, and to forge my aspiration to be a biochemist. It fascinates me how tiny molecules play such an important role in daily life, and understanding these small-scale interactions can aid us in making clinical diagnostics and in manufacturing new drugs to treat illnesses and disease. I want to increase my knowledge in these areas so I can contribute to future scientific development.

My biology A-level studies have been absorbing. I particularly enjoy studying enzymes, learning how specific active sites are formed through chemical interactions between atoms in polypeptide chains. Through university study, I hope to understand in greater depth why the induced fit theory is accepted as the way in which enzymes and their complementary substrate molecules attach, and exactly how this occurs. I find all aspects of organic chemistry extremely interesting. Most recently I have been researching Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) and its use in identifying different compounds. I was fortunate enough to have seen some of this equipment used as part of research into Alzheimer's disease on a university visit. The prospect of conducting similar research projects myself motivates me to study and work towards a career in biochemistry.

While I find so many areas of Biology and Chemistry interesting, my interest in microbiology and pathogenic bacteria inspired me to embark on an Extended Project, looking at issues regarding intensive farming of livestock, and the spread of antibiotic resistant strains of E.coli. This has not only broadened my knowledge, but improved my ability to conduct independent research, assess the credibility of a range of sources, and present information with confidence in preparation for university.

I have wanted to work in science for many years and I taken part in many extra activities at school that have enhanced my learning. In year 10, I worked with a team of students on a project examining the reduction of energy use of refrigerators in our school. This was supported by GlaxoSmithKline and gave me a real insight as to what a career in science entails. Through this experience and others, I have learnt how to communicate effectively within a team. I was accredited with an award as an Industrial Cadet for my participation in this particular project. I have undertaken work experience in a local veterinary clinic. This was an excellent opportunity to observe the application of drugs to treat disease in animals, and diagnosis of conditions through a series of medical tests. This experience supported my desire to work in science.

Studying history at A-level has taught me valuable skills, which have supported my development as a scientist. I am now proficient in essay writing, and this has strengthened my ability to structure and express my ideas fluently. Interpreting sources enables me to be analytical and pick out key information from a body of text, ensuring I write concise and sophisticated answers.

Aside from my college studies, I devote some time to my driving lessons. This has proved difficult for me, but has taught me to persevere and focus when facing challenges. Working part-time at a bakery has provided me with valuable time management skills. I have to plan my work tasks in advance to be effective in completing my college work to compensate for the lack of time at the weekends. This work experience has also developed my team working, customer service and problem solving skills.

I am a committed and industrious person and I intend to make the most of all the opportunities afforded to me by a higher level university education. I am motivated to work well and succeed, I enjoy challenges and I believe that a degree in Biochemistry will ensure I reach my dream to work as a Biochemist.

## PS Biol Sciences

Now, possibly more than ever before, we are aware of the biological minefield we live in. From the growing impact of climate change and oceans full of plastic, to the obesity crisis and the deadly attack of covid-19, life on Earth has never appeared so fragile. We need leaders and educators to emerge with the knowledge, skills, and passion to guide us through this exciting time for science. Many would find this an insurmountable and daunting task, but I find it exhilarating. I have the curiosity, drive, and academic ability to embrace the challenge and blossom on a Biological Sciences course.

Biology is a subject that requires an analytical mind that can understand complicated biological processes and draw conclusions from data with ease. On top of my 14 years of science and biology experience in an academic setting, in which I have always achieved highly, my experience working part time in Finance has given me great confidence when handling numerical data quickly but accurately.

Alongside these analytical skills, one must also have the physical ability to work in the field and carry out practical experiments with great accuracy. My long sporting history in sailing, hockey, and canoe slalom (amongst others) has given me a physical resilience of working outdoors and the practical skills of being in the field and working in a team. While my competitive slalom background has given me an internalised drive to succeed.

Finally, an essential component of biology is an ability to communicate your findings and make them accessible to the wider world. During an independent research project into the detrimental effects of tourism on the reefs at Maya Bay Beach in Thailand, I learnt how to manipulate quantitative and qualitative data and present them in a way that everyone could understand. This skill is further enhanced by my love of travel and languages, with academic roots in Spanish, Russian, and Mandarin Chinese, and time teaching English to orphans in India and to Syrian refugees in Brighton. Through these experiences, my communications skills, confidence, teamwork and knowledge of other cultures has flourished.

These are all attributes that I can bring to the university table, allowing me to work seamlessly between the classroom, laboratory, and the field.

In these challenging times an important trait to have, especially when wanting to undertake higher education, is resilience. After being privately educated for 5 years I decided to move back to the state system. Initially I found the transition from private to state education difficult and I struggled to find the drive to push myself away from the support networks of my previous school and towards the independent ethos of my new one. After overcoming these teething issues I learnt how to be self-motivated and I have transformed to come out of college as a resilient student who is able to navigate academia with the independence and drive needed for success.

The timing of my decision to study Biological Sciences at University this year (September 2020) has come largely as a result of the pandemic. I had aimed to take a gap year before applying in which I would spend 6 months working on a conservation project to rebuild reefs in Northern Bali and the other 6 months in Russia developing my language skills. However, the virus has disrupted the plans of students in so many ways that on reviewing the current global situation I decided to take the initiative, adapt my plans and decided to bring forwards my study plans. I intend to work hard and explore all aspects of the opportunities offered by tertiary education to create the best opportunities I can, despite the turbulent end to my college career.

Biology is such a wide and exciting subject. From the beauty of marine life to the complexity of metabolic processes to the minute detail of microbiology. A course in Biological Sciences would give me the chance to put some serious work behind my curiosity and put my passion into practice.

## PS Biology

I find the complexity of biological processes fascinating, especially when it comes to genetics. I am most interested in the mechanisms of inheritance as it's fascinating to see how complex processes can be traced back to a much simpler system. I find that the ways in which our bodies can react to certain external stimuli, such as bacteria or viruses, incredible but as well as the ways our bodies act as we expect them to, it's also incredibly interesting to see how those processes can go wrong.

Studying three sciences at A-level gave me valuable skills that can be transferred into a further field of study. For example, Physics taught me the importance of organising data coherently, especially when dealing with larger data sets. It also helped me to improve my maths skills and increase the speed at which I carry out simple calculations. Chemistry taught me how to follow and remember the steps of a process in a logical way. All these skills are important for both degree level and for working in a science based career later in life.

Outside my A levels, I worked on the CREST award, personally focusing on bacterial resistance to antibiotics and alternative to traditional medication and cleaners. Working on the CREST award gave me invaluable experience in both practical work and, with regard to writing up my findings, accurately referencing any sources I used. It also gave me excellent experience in supporting peer work, as I would frequently ask the opinions of others on my own findings. It also highlighted for me the importance of organisation and time-management when working on a project that takes place over a long period of time. Without detailed preplanning, it would have been a lot harder to carry out the necessary experimentation for the final write up of the project. CREST also taught me about the amount of work that goes on behind the scenes of a science class, and I have a new appreciation for the lab technicians and the excellent work they do.

I spend a lot of my free time reading. One New Scientist article that I found particularly interesting was from November 2017. The article was discussing the ethics of gene editing and whether its use should be controlled. It raised many important issues within this field, such as whether we can control whether people choose to edit their own genes, as many people say that preventing these processes would be infringing on their right to autonomy. This really made me think about the ways that scientific research can affect society and how important ethics are, especially when dealing with people.

Another interesting read was "Survival of the Sickest" by Sharon Moalem. He describes the ways in which certain diseases can have positive evolutionary effects on a species. For example, he talks about sickle cell anaemia, a condition that while having negative effects on the person provides resistance to malaria. This positive effect means that a higher percentage of people in sub-Saharan Africa have sickle cell.

At college, I was a member of the LGBTU society. During my second year, I had a fairly extensive role in organising and running the society. This really taught me a lot about leadership roles and how to organise larger groups of people, something I had little experience in before undertaking the role.

In the future, I'd like to work in immunology, and a degree in genetics will really support me in embarking on the career path of my choice. The practical component of such a degree will also greatly help me in the future in any lab-based career pathway.

I feel I am ready and absolutely motivated to study Biology at a higher level and would value the opportunity to do so.

## PS Biomedicine

From a young age, I have always questioned why, and how, things work which is what sparked my interest in science. Then seeing my paediatrician work as a young child, for example when being vaccinated, is where my interest into how the human body works began, when I questioned why what was in a syringe improved my immunity.

I have been working towards increasing my knowledge about the complex human anatomy and physiology ever since. For example, I choose to study chemistry which taught me what complex structures such as haemoglobin are made of, undertaking dissections in biology improved my knowledge of organs, as I learned how plaques can cause blockage in the coronary artery. Furthermore volunteering at two hospitals I was able to be around many different health professionals such as doctors, phlebotomists, pathologists and nurses I realised how much a difference the findings in biomedicine can make to patients, for example, faster diagnostics by using blood tests and carrying out biopsies. This inspired me to want to be part of a team that helps improve people's lives. which is why I find biomedical science such a potential exciting and rewarding area of study.

Volunteering and giving back to the community at least once a week is important to me. Voluntary experience alongside my job at Tesco taught me to interact with a variety of people when helping customers and organising the shop. It has taught me to become a more responsible, organised and mature person. Volunteering in a nursery and babysitting has taught me what it is like working with toddlers. This has enabled me to solve problems with a more empathetic approach which I have learned is very important when working in the medical field.

I was an active member in my college student union which gave me good leadership skills by having to take the initiative, time management skills for example when we had deadlines to organise events, teamwork skills when the whole SU had to collaborate to come up with ideas to improve student life at college and I have learned how to resolve conflicts when working with a team. This is relevant as it shows that I am a student that is able to work both independently and in a team. I was also the president of a society called celebrating cultural diversity which involved me educating people on the history of people of colour that many schools don't teach and has helped me make POC feel empowered and embrace their unique differences. This has helped me gain presentation, research and initiative skills. This is relevant as it shows that I am a dedicated person who is confident when presenting ideas and engaging with others. I also organised and lead a woman's day talk and brought together inspiring women of different backgrounds to talk about their experiences as women in male-dominant fields, exploring how factors such as race and being LGBTQ+ impacts people in a work environment, for which I took part in a debate with some of the audience. This shows that I am able to face issues in a respectful way.

I believe that this course will be a great fit for me as it will help me learn more about subjects I am passionate about more in-depth and help me find a career path that is suitable for me in which I can apply my knowledge to help others. Having lived in a country that doesn't have a good standard of healthcare, and knowing some people are not able to live a healthy life simply because they cannot afford healthcare, it would be a great honour to work for an organisation (NHS) that meets everyone's needs and bases treatment on clinical need and not their ability to pay. I believe that my work experience, passion to learn about the human body, and desire to help people improve their quality of life is what will make me a good medical professional.

## PS Business

My ambition is to become a successful woman in business. Whether this is through creating my own company using my drive and determination alongside my innovative and analytical thinking, or by being invited to join and help an existing company achieve greater success. I am keen to make a positive difference to other people's lives and work as part of a team to create an environment where we can all achieve our goals and ambitions.

My study of economics, law and history is helping me to better understand how lives, business and the world works, yet it also raises as many questions as it answers. What I particularly love about economics is how it can be debated subjectively, and applied objectively, to help determine many key life decisions. To be able to develop my passion for this subject and its application within business is why I am applying to study it at a higher level. I want to become a business undergraduate and an ambassador for my university and the course I have chosen.

My study of History has helped me understand why political change or unrest across the world causes local economic impact on societies and families, how countries and societies have evolved, and why social policy and politics can both steer and be steered by the economic climate effecting business. Whether it is the Russian revolution or the great depression, or perhaps more recently the world banking and financial crisis, the insights offered in History have helped me to contextualise and understand modern economies and how this affects business decision making. This combined with a personal interest in how the incredible speed of technological advancement is changing the way that we all work and live our lives, is what makes the workings of business so exciting.

One of the most hotly debated topics recently has been BREXIT, and its subsequent impact on the UK economy and UK business. I find it fascinating when debating and arguing this with friends and family how polar the arguments can become. Also trying to understand what drives the demographic and geographic differences in opinions is fascinating. Reading publications such as Minford's "Britain Alone", which claimed that BREXIT would yield a 4% gain in GDP alongside counter analysis from sources such as HM treasury and PWC, again show how different economic models can attempt to predict outcomes of events with differing answers to the same question.

Having attended industry events such as the UCL Young Investment Bankers program and working locally with the RSPCA, I have been able to see to some degree both ends of the business spectrum. From high performing investment banking and financial services environment through to organisations supported through charitable donations. I have learnt how business generates profit using economics and its principles, and how an organisation raises money to enable it to perform its services.

Working part-time in retail, I have seen first hand how the use of economics within business can determine RRP and price elasticity can positively affect both turnover and profit for an organisation. It is also through such activity that I have been able to demonstrate my team work and leadership qualities, having been asked to lead a specific area within store and help my team achieve against its targets.

I am a strong communicator with a lively bubbly personality who enjoys working collaboratively. Examples of this being my peer group election to economics rep, and my organisation and participation in charitable events in support of cancer research, a cause very close to me. I am highly driven with a thirst to succeed and have used certain events in my personal life to reinforce my determination to succeed and fulfil my potential. I am committed and motivated to succeed and studying business at a higher level will enable me to fulfil, I feel my full potential.

## PS Business

I want to continue with Business Studies at university as this has been the 'A' level that I have enjoyed the most and the one that I believe I can use when planning my future career. I have really enjoyed understanding how organisations function and trade and how businesses can be affected by other factors and look forward to being able to develop my knowledge of the subject.

My interest in Business studies began with GCSE Business Studies at high school where I first learned the foundations of business; for example areas such as marketing and HR were introduced to me and the general structure and broadness of the business industry. Business was something new and it was something that I wanted to pursue further in the future as I have a real enjoyment and passion for it. Therefore it was an obvious choice for me to continue with business at BHASVIC College. The A-level course has even further developed my thirst for wanting to advance in the subject, as the course gives more depth into the elements of business like acquisitions and mergers, as well as more insight into marketing, HR, and analyzing a business' strategic position, all areas of which interest me massively. I took a risk and also began an Economics 'A' level, even though I had no previous experience, as I thought this would complement the Business Studies course well, but unfortunately it wasn't what I expected and I found that I didn't enjoy it or really have a natural aptitude for the subject. The positives of this is I have found this out now and this has helped me better understand what I want from a Business course. In order to maximise my UCAS points I am currently completing a BTEC in PE to push myself to give me the best opportunity so I can study business at the highest university possible to gain the maximum skills I can to take into working life.

Outside of college, and undertaken independently of BHASVIC, I have attended 2 graduate events at BT in Cyber global security. Global Security is a massive growth area and is constantly having to change and adapt as cyber threats develop. BT is competing in a global market with opportunities for graduates around the world and in a variety of different roles from sales and procurement to the more technical aspects of security. I believe that by studying Business Studies at this University will increase my options and help when striving for an opportunity at BT. Although at the moment I am focusing on security because the growth potential and variety appeals to me. BT is a huge organisation and there are always opportunities if you are successful to move around depending on how your interests develop. This is why I would also love to analyse other courses involved in the huge business scope.

I've had 2 part time jobs. When I was 16 I worked as a kitchen porter and as a waiter at a local public house. I also successfully applied for a job at Asda in retail. I have learnt to appreciate that money isn't the only consideration when it comes to choosing employers and there are other "perks" to jobs which need to be taken into consideration. Having had some work experience this makes me able to appreciate what it's like to work, aspects of employment that are a positive - locality, remuneration, job satisfaction, etc but also the negatives - repetition and boredom. Although both businesses are in the service industry one is a national organisation with over 600 stores, that has its operating systems decided from a head office over 250 miles away and the other is an independent small business, I believe my work experience has given me insight into working life and the diversity of employment.

Outside of college and work I also play football. I was scouted for the under 18's at Worthing, who play Ryman league premier division, when I was only 16. The skills that you learn at this level are technical, strategic thinking, determination, dedication and team work is a crucial part of playing football and I've been able to appreciate and experience the need for it in everyday life. I have also partaken in coaching younger years with my involvement in my high school football team which gave me experience in leadership and decision making.

I really want to have a successful career in Business and hope to equip myself as best I can with the skills and knowledge to enable this. 4354 (too long)

## PS Business & Economics

As a keen chef, it was the prospect of managing my own restaurant that drew me to study business. I have since explored and designed my own restaurant ideas by researching potential gaps in the market, such as..... By studying this discipline at a higher level, I hope to further my understanding of how to run a successful business and Young Enterprise has been an insight into the field of work that I hope to enter.

The Young Enterprise course has enabled me to set up a limited liability company. In line with my interests in healthy food, I came up with the idea of a recipe book about healthy eating targeted at the student market. However, running a business came with some challenges. Finding a USP in a competitive market was hard - we overcame this by including awareness of food miles and healthy eating to appeal to the younger generation.

I have thoroughly enjoyed studying Business and Economics at A level. My A level choices were based around understanding how businesses operate in the overall context of the economy, but with a particular eye on what skills I would need to deliver on my own business ideas in the food market. Since studying psychology at A-level I have also gained an understanding of both consumer behaviour and motivation in the workforce, which are key aspects to running a successful business.

I have undertaken a number of intern roles and paid work, both of which have developed some of my skillsets which I think will support my future career. This has included a week interning with Lloyds Bank – where I saw how a large business operated. My particular role was looking at how big banks assess loans to small businesses. I learned skills such as underwriting and risk assessments for loans and met with several departments in the bank. My team and I were set a challenge to pick a charity of choice and make a case for why we believe Lloyds bank should sponsor them. I took away from this work experience the importance both of having a solid business plan and a good credit history. I spent a week interning at MeLearning – focusing on e-learning, where I supported new product development. I had to work in a small team, and communicate ideas on areas for improvement on their newest product. This taught me the importance of knowing what the customer wants and ensuring their needs are met. It also taught me about the importance of working effectively in a team environment. In my current part-time job at Topshop, I am learning about the importance of branding and presentation of a product to maximise sales. I have also had to be resilient and overcome problems as they arise, including dealing with difficult customers in a tactful way. However, the most invaluable skill I've learned is how to work with a team under pressure.

In addition to the experiences above, I was very fortunate to go on a school charity trip to Malawi last year, where I taught English to over 100 primary school kids. Maintaining the children's focus in such challenging learning conditions was hard, not least due to the language barrier and scarcity of resources. However, we managed to engage the students by teaching and acting out songs in English. Experiencing such a different culture has really opened my eyes to different ways of life and the inequalities in the world. The opportunity has massively boosted my confidence with public speaking as I was pushed out of my comfort zone and forced to face challenges head on. I believe businesses have the ability to change lives. In my specific area of interest, I would like to explore how businesses could bring improved food quality to developing economies in an affordable way.

So, in summary, I believe that studying for a degree in Business / Economics, will give me the skills and ideas to pursue something that I am passionate about and also make a difference to people's lives. I am looking forward to the new challenges that studying at a higher level will take me.

## **PS Business Construction**

Everything in life requires management for it to work effectively and efficiently. Whether this be management of a company, or management of time in order to complete a certain task/tasks, management is essential. This is the main reason as to why I was interested in studying management at university. Throughout my life I have always been a leader in whatever I undertake and enjoy working within a team, any challenges that presents, and problem solving. All these skills and attributes I believe are essential when considering effective management, and all of which I believe are necessary for management to be completed positively.

I never took Business as an option for GCSE, but after exploring the subject more in my own time, I gained a passion for it and thus thought it would be not only a useful, but an exciting thing to study as an A level. When studying Business at college, I was fascinated by all the varied and complex operations within the scope of businesses operations such as finance, project management and marketing. However throughout my life I feel that I have developed the attributes to become a leader. Due to leadership being a pivotal part of management, and due to a fascination with all sides of a business as brought about by studying the subject extensively as an A level, I believe that a degree in business management would suit me well.

My dad used to be a construction manager for a big construction firm. He used to go to London every day to work on his projects and when he came back later in the evening he would tell me how much money the projects he was working on where worth. Naturally you look up to your farther, but I became very interested in the job he had as a construction manager and from a young age have always considered it as a potential career path for myself. Construction management has always been at the back of my mind but now the time has come to decide what I want to do with my life and I believe that studying management at university, with a potential view to a focus on construction management is what I want to do. I have tended to be a natural leader through life, much like my dad was and this made me decide to want to be a construction/ project manager as opposed to doing a different part of construction.

My leadership skills, which are key to any managerial role, have been prevalent through my long fourteen-year rugby career, in which I have captained many of the teams I have played for, as well as going on to represent my county in the sport. To reach this level in the sport, I had to have great communication skills due to me being a fly half, as well as heaps of dedication and commitment to the sport and training to get to the level that I achieved. I also credit myself as developing excellent people skills, as well as having the ability to work in a team, as after all rugby is a team sport. All of the qualities I have listed in the above paragraph are, I believe, essential to good management and I cannot wait to see how I apply these skills to the construction management course.

As I spent more time in education, I found there was more opportunities to take different kind of subjects that interested me outside the essentials of Maths and English. Now the time has come to look at university. The variety of courses on offer excites me and I believe that my passion for both business and construction, accompanied with my passion for management means that I will thrive in whatever subject I choose to take. I embrace the challenges that lie ahead and look forward to learning more about a subject I am passionate about.



## PS Business

My passion for business stemmed from experiencing my father operate a successful fine art business. I gained insight into several processes involved with the management of a business, from production, to selling goods and multiple costs involved such as sourcing materials, transport costs and advertising. I am attracted to the subjects' diversity and multiple career options it would open, driving me to study the subject at undergraduate level with the aim of fulfilling my business aspirations.

At college, I studied Economics, Geography and Biology at A level. Taking economics taught me why firms operate in certain ways, effects of market booms and busts on business, investor's confidence, and wider impacts this causes on the economy. I also learned the role of the government in controlling markets and correcting market failure. Geography highlighted the importance of how business decisions impact the environment, and the effects of businesses on key human factors such as healthcare and poverty. Biology built on my ability to analyse large data sets through statistics and developed my practical skills. I also took the opportunity in college to complete the young enterprise course. This allowed me to gain confidence and knowledge in setting up a business. I worked in a 6 person team in which we bought stock from an overseas supplier and sold at several events including the BHASVIC Christmas fair and the young enterprise awards ceremony at the Amex stadium. At the awards, I presented the brand my team created - 'Mobilize' - with 3 colleagues. This was beneficial to me as it improved my ability to perform a pitch and allowed me to speak to highly knowledgeable people in firms of several different fields. I was head of advertising and marketing in my team. This developed my marketing prowess with practical tasks such as creating a website, making posters and utilising digital advertising. Furthermore, I gained experience in management as I had to delegate several tasks to my team to allow sufficient time for completion.

My interest in business extends beyond my education. I keep updated with daily worldwide business-related news through a range of online platforms such as BBC News, YouTube and Twitter. I watch podcasts and documentaries to gain deeper knowledge on stories I find most interesting. The BBC News article 'The 26 year old with a 100m sportswear brand' was one of my many inspirations to study business at undergraduate level as it talks about how 19-year old Ben Francis created one of the leading gym equipment businesses while being a full-time student, working at Pizza Hut to fund his start-up 'Gymshark'.

I am currently taking a gap year to travel and gain work experience. Presently I work in retail. This has developed my customer service techniques with regular interactions. Last September I went interrailing across Europe for four weeks with a group of friends and thoroughly enjoyed experiencing different cultures and languages. Alongside business, sport is my main passion and I enjoy going to the gym regularly to keep fit. I have played football from U10s to U19s at county level, cricket for three years at a local team and participated in swimming galas for my school. These sporting activities have developed teamwork and communication skills from a young age and gave me social connections, helping me to become a confident person. In addition, I have completed the Duke of Edinburgh bronze award. This involved taking part in a 6-week firefighting course and supervising a team at a local youth club which organised engaging and rewarding activities for the children.

The marketing and entrepreneurial aspects of the course are of particular interest to me and are areas of business which I would like to specialise in in the future. These aspects are my core passion inspiring me to study this diverse, highly recognised degree which will allow me to fulfil my ambition of progressing in the business world.

## PS Chem Engineering

Once I started studying my A level subjects, I soon realised that I wanted to pursue Chemical Engineering at University. It offered me the opportunity to continue studying subjects that I was excelling in, undertake a degree covering topics that I am interested in, as well as providing opportunities to take part in resolving real life challenges.

I enjoyed the problem-solving element in my A level subjects and found it satisfying when a problem which initially seemed overwhelming, was finally solved. I understand that transferring Chemistry (either a new product or process) from a small scale in laboratories, up to a larger scale in Chemical Engineering, may involve a great deal of problem solving, with many considerations needing to be taken into account. I find the prospect very exciting. My interest in engineering spurred me on to find work experience at the engineering consultancy Mott MacDonald Ltd. This gave me an insight into how an engineering project progresses from inception, development and management, until finally the project is delivered. I now appreciate the differing skills that are assembled within a project team, as well as the importance of good communication. During Sixth Form there were several opportunities to work as a team, where I confidently shared my ideas, as well as considered and respected those of others. I also presented my independent research project about nuclear fusion reactors to my teacher and full class. I described the ITER project plans and explained how concepts and theories that I had learnt in the classroom, are being applied to a potential new green energy source. My combination of A levels has allowed me to appreciate how intertwined all scientific subjects are and these links have consolidated my learning and understanding of several topics. I feel that my broad scientific background would enable me to appreciate different perspectives when faced with a complex challenge. In my spare time I often read up to date engineering articles. I have found those on 'The Chemical Engineer' website regarding COVID very interesting, particularly how chemical engineers are tackling the mass manufacturing of a vaccine and the development of alcohol free sanitiser.

I have been keen to challenge myself and broaden my knowledge of my A level subjects beyond the classroom by taking part in the Maths Olympiad for Girls, the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge and the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge for Lower Sixth (gaining a Copper award). I have also attended a Sussex University Physics lab day, where we were given a talk by a research lecturer and allocated experiments to perform in a university environment. One of these involved using a strobe light and a water droplet. By changing the frequency of the light, it gave the impression that the water droplet was levitating or moving backwards. As a maths prefect I regularly simplified problems at GCSE drop-in sessions, helping others to make progress in maths. This led me to think of different ways to explain how to solve problems.

Due to COVID, I decided to postpone my entry to university until 2021. I have gained employment and continue to volunteer in a charity shop. These roles will enable me to develop many transferrable work place skills. I have maintained my A-level subject knowledge by continuing to offer tutoring and by completing the InvestIN Young Engineer Summer Internship. Inspiring talks by engineering professionals and the opportunity to engage with their current projects has further excited me about the world of engineering. I particularly enjoyed working and sharing my ideas with my team when given engineering problems to solve. Outside of my academic studies, I play guitar and am a keen runner. I have achieved a Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award and completed the NCS programme.

A chemical engineering degree is a good match to my skills and interests. I would like to become a Chartered Engineer and to be involved in new developments in the future.

## PS Chemistry

The topic of science encompasses the observation and discoveries of our natural world and the Universe, deepening our understanding about how and why things work so perfectly well together. Our collective knowledge has allowed the human race to develop and manufacture essential things, from our digital alarm we wake up to in the morning, to the lights one turns off at the end of the day, which this modern world would not be able to function properly without.

Starting Year 13, I undertook an Extended Project Qualification dissertation as it is an excellent preview into the university approach to learning. In this I will be researching various cancer treatments, for example chemotherapy and gene editing, used against the four types of leukaemia and the underlying chemistry behind it on an atomic and cellular level. Using various academic journals and nearby university libraries by the end I will have come to a final conclusion, taking into account side effects, statistical data and ethical issues. This will advance my critical and reflective thinking whilst developing my analytical, presentational and time management skills, which I can apply to other areas of study and give me the confidence and ability to handle the demanding nature of a Masters' degree.

My independent studies have directed me to a particular interest in medicinal chemistry which led me to participate in the Future Learn Course, 'The Science of Medicine'. Through this I have furthered my knowledge so I am now able to draw and explain how the chemical structures of modern medicines have made them effective for treating specific conditions. Questions in the course ranged from what insulin does in the body, to how metabolite M1 is able to work at opiate receptors - to check my understanding. Although challenging, it intrigued me more because whilst questions are answered other questions emerge. Not only has it broadened my insight into pharmaceuticals and its importance, but it enabled me to familiarise myself with some biological terms necessary in my university study.

To increase my chemistry knowledge in my own time I took part in the online course, 'Exploring Everyday Chemistry', which helped establish my interest in identifying natural and synthetic attractants as I was interested to learn the complex process of how humans smell. Other areas it covered were the race for new antibiotics where I grasped the method for how specific antibiotics, e.g. penicillin, work within the body and kill bacteria by interfering with the ability to synthesise their cell walls. To further my understanding I then learnt the mechanism to how this works using my previous basic knowledge of mechanisms, learnt in A1 of organic chemistry.

In preparation for university I am intending to volunteer at my nearby medical centre in order to give me the opportunity to develop new skills in a medical environment. Having been employed at a fast food restaurant for the past year, I have had the responsibility to train new workers which has developed my ability to direct and communicate with a group of people. I have tutored GCSE students in Mathematics and Sciences which has given me the chance to strengthen their subject understanding, boost their confidence and aid them in getting the top grades, whilst letting me share my passion with others.

My career aspiration has stemmed from my interest in medicinal chemistry as I would like to make my life count as a positive influence by reducing suffering and increasing the wellbeing of mankind. By concentrating on the study of diseases, causes and cures, I hope to play a part in this. My desire to study chemistry at university is a vital foundation to my ambition. Science at school and college has always excited and stimulated me into wanting to find out more. I relish the possibility of being able to pursue advanced chemistry ideas and theories at university level.

## PS Civil Engineering

Having thought about my future over the past couple of years I cannot see myself in a desk job performing the same tasks every day. From reading up on Civil Engineering and by gaining the right qualifications, I believe this profession can lead me to achieve a varied and fulfilling career, where time can be spent working independently or with others, to design and develop solutions to make a difference within society. The prospect of working on differing challenges, to solve problems through being creative and pulling together designs, certainly excites me. Over the course of my life I have challenged myself by completing various projects that I have enjoyed; designing and enhancing housing and exercising facilities for the family rabbits and guinea pigs, also building and plumbing a stand to support a one-and-a-half-ton aquarium. For many years I have deconstructed bikes and scooters in an attempt to understand how they work, with my main focus to improve their performance and appeal. With an interest in this area, I believe Civil Engineering will be the ideal course to lead me to a challenging and exciting career, enabling me to make a positive difference to our environment by helping to look at sustainable designs, whilst working alongside others. The three A-level subjects I have taken have helped prepare me for independent study at university. Studying Law has taught me valuable analytical skills through analysing and questioning cases and points of law. Business has given me a strong understanding of how organisations operate, and developed my decision making and logical thinking skills when having to determine outcomes for businesses within case studies. Conjoined these two A-levels have allowed me to become proficient in expressing my ideas and opinions through essay writing and group discussions. Maths has enabled me to find enjoyment in working through, and overcoming, tough and challenging problems. Within maths I have particularly enjoyed work on integrals and moments due to the application of logical methods to discover the solutions. Outside of academic pursuits, I have focussed on becoming a more independent and well-rounded individual whilst strengthening my life skills especially when dealing with people from diverse backgrounds. Originally working in a small jewellery shop serving customers with specific requirements, and engraving products using a modern computerised machine. Secondly, I have worked as a checkout assistant at Tesco supermarket enabling me to work collectively with colleagues to provide the top level of customer service and care. Working in the public eye has empowered me to remain calm under pressure, take instruction from management, demonstrate attention to detail and solve customer problems. Having performed these roles and gained the individual responsibility that comes with them, to satisfy and please customers, has led to me becoming self-dependant and reliable. Therefore, this has ensured I am adept at having responsibility and good time management in order to meet the desired deadlines, which can be applied to my studies at university. Working voluntarily at a nursery in my spare time, which includes children with special needs, I am responsible for a group of children making sure that they are safe and happy, whilst playing an important role in their development facilitating me with leadership skills. Not only does this indicate my capability of working confidently under pressure, but displays my strengths of being reliable and committed. Ultimately, studying for a civil engineering degree appeals to me because it is the next step into a career which can allow me to design and create on a far larger scale. I am prepared for the challenges of higher education and I believe my adaptable nature and dedication will enable me to thrive and prosper.

## PS Classics

The ancient classical world has built the foundations of our contemporary societies; from our political systems, to our philosophies and religions. Its influence on literature, from the allusions to Tiresias in T.S Eliot's 'The Wasteland' to Ciceronian references in the speeches of Obama, is tantalising. Having studied Classical Civilisation and English Literature at A Level, I discovered the subjects were greatly intertwined and thus it was initially through English that I learnt to appreciate the works of classical authors and Graeco-Roman antiquity. The historical story-telling style of Tom Holland's 'Rubicon' and Ted Hughes' gripping translation of 'Tales of Ovid' are favourites of mine, developing my understanding of the classical world along with the works of Virgil, Homer, and Herodotus' 'The Histories'.

I have travelled to Rome twice, which has both brought my studies to life and shown me first-hand the way ancient culture is ingrained into modernity. The SPQR symbols on various pavements and signs over the city, along with archaeological remains at every corner acted as a constant reminder of the ever-present political and social influence of ancient Rome. I have also travelled independently around Japan, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam and South Korea. I found this an invaluable learning experience as I saw, again, the wide-reaching influence of ancient civilisations in Asian culture and society. It's overarching impact on philosophy, art, customs and family values, reiterated to me the worldwide importance of classical research, discovery, and analysis - and how this helps us to understand why people across the world live the way they do. Additionally, I have plans to teach English in South America next year - volunteering and travelling around Peru, Costa Rica and Ecuador. I hope to hike the Inca Trail to Macchu Pichu and get an exciting glimpse into the ancient civilisations of an entirely different area of the world.

Keen motivation to delve deeper into the subject has risen substantially from my travels and thus over the course of my two gap years so far, I have had the ability to perform independent research and reading. Particularly, 'The Silence of The Girls' by Pat Barker sparked a keen interest in the lives of women and roles they play in epics such as the Homer's 'The Iliad'. The social and political ambivalence with which women are treated in both ancient literature and daily life makes for a fascinating comparison to the modern day. Madeline Miller's 'Circe' has also provided an interesting insight with regards to Greek mythology and the misogyny faced even by the female divine. The breadth of Classics and the idea of not being limited to one single approach or set of skills has greatly contributed to my excitement around the subject. Studying Sociology has also given valuable insight into how societal structures affect the minds and ethics of individuals and how this is influenced by historical context. I find this particularly interesting as ancient social patterns and behaviours continue to exist in modern life – specifically with regards to hierarchy and piety.

I am a hardworking individual, always looking for ways to improve myself academically and am motivated to develop my knowledge and understanding of the classical world. I am an independent learner who embraces difficult challenges and have worked hard to maintain a level of academia throughout my gap year thus far. I have been working at an independent cinema for about 3 years, which has not only allowed me to build upon my love of the film industry but has also enabled me to use initiative and communicate with different types of people in a busy workplace.

My studies at college, wider reading and my travels abroad have inspired me to pursue a career in something related to classical history and cultural analysis, and I hope that higher education along with my keen interest in the subject, will result in a future for me in these fields.

## PS Classics 2

My interest in the Classical world stems from my belief that the study of Ancient Civilisations is crucial to our understanding of the contemporary era. Examining the social, political and economic issues of Ancient societies prompts us to reflect upon our own, allowing us to study the consequences for the individual, society as a whole, and the very integrity of a civilisation.

The fall of the Roman Republic presents to us a real-life example of total disintegration of a state and system. It is a topic that engrossed me immediately due to the preceding years of turbulent politics, the volatile dynamics between those in power, and the positive correlation between street violence and fundamental instability. Indeed, learning about this remarkable period of Ancient History taught me an important lesson about the fragility of civilisation and the frailty of democratic order, which seems particularly pertinent within the current political climate. Furthermore, studying these aspects of the classical period has alerted me to the potential for political and social collapse of society, informing my interest in dystopian fiction. Alongside my A Levels I undertook an EPQ Artefact where I wrote and illustrated a dystopian short story.

My dystopian vision was largely informed by my newfound awareness of the fragility of civilisation, the facade of order and the regression of progress that is evident in the fall of the **res publica**.

Studying classical epic nurtured my fascination with literature's tendency to reflect the social, political and economic climate in which was written. Upon reading Homer's *Odyssey*, I was struck by how the second oldest piece of Western literature has become one of the primary sources of material for the Hellenic world. Despite the oral poem's uncertain and feasibly collective authorship, it brings invaluable insight into the morality of Ancient Greece, demonstrating the belief in divine justice, and rituals such as *xenia*. Conversely, I find Virgil's *Aeneid* to be far more morally ambiguous, perhaps reflecting the tense political circumstances it was written in. Although commissioned by Augustus and often interpreted as a panegyric of Rome, the epic simultaneously seems to be undermining the emperor at times. Virgil's sympathetic presentation of Dido arguably diminishes Aeneas' heroic status and contrasts to the subsequent characterisation of Lavinia, who embodies the silenced female public voice of Ancient society that Mary Beard explores in her manifesto 'Women and Power.' I find it interesting that Classical female figures such as Medea and Medusa have become controversial, and their status as savage and menacing personalities has been called into question, yet are still used to demonise women.

After learning about Pompeii for GCSE, and then having it visually recreated for me in Robert Harris' novel, it was an awe-inspiring experience being able to visit the archaeological site myself, and view the very same, albeit slightly smaller, Mount Vesuvius that buried the town. I felt the same strange sense of nostalgia and wonder each time, again at the Theatre of Dionysus in Athens, and at Augustus' house on the Palatine Hill in Rome. I feel extremely fortunate to have been able to visit these places, and am eager to visit more in the future. I am currently on a gap year, and my job as a barista is honing my communication, interpersonal and organisational skills. I have also begun reading Plato's 'Republic' in my spare time. I find myself agreeing with his belief that justice in society will only be achieved once political power is placed in the hands of philosophers. Unfortunately we may be waiting a while...

In addition to my academic interest in Classics, an introductory **L**atin course as well as performing in a production of 'Medea' at Brighton Open Air Theatre broadened my appreciation of the subject, and I am eager to explore it further. 3920

## PS Commercial Music

I am applying to do a degree in commercial music and have chosen to study this course because I have an aspiration to play bass guitar at a professional level. I would like to enter the music industry as it appeals to my sense of creativity. Undertaking this course would allow me the opportunity to learn new skills within the process of making and distributing music, especially given the ever-changing nature of the music industry which requires forward thinking and creativity in order to stand out from the rest of the crowd. This course will help me to discover my own individual sound, and help me to begin my chosen career, allowing me to achieve success doing what I am passionate about. The course will give me the chance to perform in live settings with other musicians and to work with them to create music together, which allows creative freedom and experimentation in order to develop our own sound and feedback. This can be given and acted upon to improve the level of performance demonstrated. I feel that this course can teach me a lot about how life can be within the music industry, and about the jobs that are part of it. It will help me explore many skills that can promote my potential employment as a musician. I would like to be able to take more music-based opportunities when they arise such as joining new bands, or even soloing. I would be extremely interested in having the opportunity to understand the methods that acts use to promote themselves, be booked as artists and market themselves and their shows such as posters, flyers and more commonly now the use of social media. This can generate a presence in order to distribute your songs to new audiences and those who otherwise would have never heard your music. My interests include playing bass, and learning bass lines to both my own preferred tracks as well as popular songs that are in the charts, and songs that are difficult to learn in order to challenge myself so that I can improve my bass playing. I have a real love for listening to local bands and seeing them play live. I explore how smaller bands perform, and to try and pick up tips and tricks to be able to help understand how the music industry functions, and how to ensure that a gig runs smoothly. I also enjoy watching larger bands perform to see the differences and similarities between semi-professional and professional musicians. Another hobby that I spend a large portion of time on is building kit projects. Some of my recent projects are a simple synth and sequencer, and an electric guitar. I have a sense of real satisfaction upon completing these projects and would like to continue these in a more professional environment, whether that be selling completed projects and guitars as a side venture or to become a professional luthier. Throughout my life I have been exposed to a huge mix of all genres of music. This has led to a real appreciation of the massive range of the different sounds you can make with both traditional instruments such as guitars and drums, and more modern instruments such as synths and digital production methods. This has inspired me to experiment and create as much music as I can, in any way possible. I am extremely self-motivated to learn more about my instrument and want to be able to develop my core skills to a professional level, be able to perform with other musicians on stage with ease, and perform at gigs and provide a solid performance. It was only very recently I realised I wanted to follow this pathway and studying it full-time as a degree it is what I honestly believe I want to be doing all my life. This was all sparked at a performance I saw live in Brighton by a few fairly small bands. I spoke to the bassists of the bands that performed that night and they both inspired me to think that I could do what I love and spend a large amount of my spare time doing as a career. I am ready and committed to study at a higher level, and achieve my dream of studying commercial music.

## PS Computer Science

On Betty Holberton's first day in class in University of Pennsylvania, she was told by her math's professor to quit wasting time attempting to get a math's degree, go home and raise children instead. She then became one of the 6 programmers to program the first all-electronic digital computer. I believe this is where one of the first pathways into the journey of computer science for women. This has inspired me to be committed to STEM and STEM subjects, especially as the sector is generally male dominated. I am passionate about this subject and dedicated to pursuing a career within it. I look forward and enjoy solving one problem, and moving onto the next.

The road of computer science is continuously developing and therefore there is a constant demand for computer scientists. I believe I am fully prepared to take on all the challenges of a computer scientist will face and keep up to date with recent and relevant developments in this subject. I have taken part in the UK Bebras Challenge in 2018 and 2019 which includes solving problems using computational thinking skills and techniques. These skills and techniques involve the understanding of breaking down difficult tasks into smaller components; pattern recognition; algorithm design and abstraction. I have also taken part in Cyber Discovery in my free time in 2018. This developed my logical thinking to solve cyber security problems, as well as general problem solving and the use of initiative.

Furthermore, for my coursework, I have decided to take on the challenge of creating a creative an educational game. From this I have learnt the process and theory of building a game and I want to further my knowledge in this area. Group coding tasks is also something I enjoy; I love seeing how others perceive a task and implementing it into my own work and working as a team. Furthermore, during my computer science course, I've learnt the languages of C, Python, Java and HTML. In addition, my current A-Level choices have also helped me on this journey. For example, Maths; it holds key benefits to solving problems such as recursive formulas, graphs and probability. It also has a great deal of time management attached to it, especially solving difficult questions with a time limit.

Outside of college, I have a part time job as a barista at Costa. This has taught me a variety of skills and competence in and out of the workplace. I believe have developed social skills, organisational skills, commitment, confidence and working under pressure. I have also been fortunate to help raise money for the costa foundation charity multiple times. I also have a big interest in basketball; playing for my college's woman's basketball team two years in a row. Moreover, from basketball, I have learnt the arts of being a team player, this has taught me how to work in a team and pull my own weight. I think this skill is beneficial for Computer Science; you rely on others to do their part of the job and others rely on you to do yours as you play the team to their individual strengths.

I would make the best candidate for the Computer Science course; I am a dedicated, hardworking and enthusiastic young woman. I have a desire and drive to contribute and be part of the ever changing world of computer science and technology. I am committed and motivated and ready for both the challenges, and rewards of higher education.



## PS Computing (games)

I would really like to study this course because from a young age I have been very interested in video games. Not only do I enjoy playing them, but also thinking about what makes them work and why they are so popular. I hope in the future to develop my own games for other people to play and have fun with. Computing is easily my favourite course. I really enjoy programming and love the problem solving and logic elements, which also utilises my maths background. I love creating a useful programme to solve a problem, and finding ways to make my code as efficient and effective as I can. In the first year of computing I learnt my first language, C, and this year I have now decided to learn C++ and use object oriented programming. Last year I really enjoyed tasks such as group challenges creating programmes for things like ATM machines, which I really enjoyed. Tasks seemed impossible at first but then became easily manageable with everyone collaborating and sharing ideas. This year I have decided to create a local multiplayer game for my course work, to hopefully give me an insight into actual game design and help prepare myself for what I will be doing on a games development course at University. Along with computing I have a strong ICT background and am fluent and well acquainted with most Microsoft office applications and software such as Dreamweaver and Flash. Maths at A2 and logical problem solving has been very interesting and I feel helped a great deal in understanding computing and programming, as both subjects are about how to use resources and knowledge to come up with a solution to the problem. In my first year of maths I chose double maths which I found very challenging. However, I persevered to the end of the year and completed the exams. This year I have dropped down from double maths to single maths, which means I am now doing the second year exams again so I will have two years of experience and I am confident in my maths results this year. Although I really like the programming and more technical side of game development, I also am very interested in the creative side of it as well, and the ideas and concepts that go into making a game. I regularly play indie games made by smaller development companies, which I feel have a lot of exciting and innovating new ideas which you wouldn't normally see in games made by larger companies. This I feel has inspired me to go ahead with studying and working in games design as I want to try and come up with fresh concepts for games that people will enjoy playing and use my creativity and imagination to accomplish this. While playing games I will often think about what could be improved and adjusted to make the game more enjoyable, or consider what is already in the game that makes it so satisfying to play and why it works so well. Along with this I also watch a lot of game reviews and take into consideration other peoples viewpoints and interpretations of particular video games. Although I have not picked very creative courses at college I still take joy in inventiveness, and in secondary school found activities such as creative writing in English or making songs in a group in music very rewarding. By choosing to make my own game in my computing coursework I am trying to be as original as I can in making the game unique and personalised to reflect what I think is entertaining in a game. So in taking a games development course at University I am not only trying to expand upon my programming, but would also very much like to develop my skills in creating different game concepts. Through this both individually, and as part of a team, I would hope to produce interesting, thoughtful and entertaining games.

## PS Creative Advertising

Inspiration and idea generation is part of my daily routine. I find problem solving and discovering ways to improve a product extremely fulfilling; it motivates me to work to my utmost capacity. In believing that I should apply high levels of effort into a project I think having enthusiasm, and particularly being able to translate that enjoyment into your work, is for me a necessity to creating successful pieces.

My father, who is a professional comic book artist, taught me to see the world through a unique perspective. Developing a sense for inventiveness and creativity broadened my horizons, and being exposed to many pieces of fantasy and science fiction artwork as a young person really encouraged me to lean towards imaginative designs with a quirky twist as an aspiring graphic designer. For a long time, I have particularly enjoyed the work of Frank Frazetta, who possesses the precise quality to produce artwork that is spectacularly nonsensical. His ability to produce encapsulating artwork and drama and discipline into his scenes not only take you to another dimension, but almost convince you of its existence. I believe my father can have this quality too, I found how he could range from artwork that showed a divine level of skill to doodling charming zombies and haphazard creatures on the back of an envelope fascinating, so my taste furthered for the weird and the wonderful.

My A-level courses mellowed this attitude towards art; I began to look deeper to analyse the components within a frame, maturing in my understanding of composition. When it came to researching the classic artistic movements before my time I fell in love with the sensitive and stylish compositions of modernism and modernist graphics (particularly Swiss with its combination of vibrant and bold colors). Seeing something delivered so seamlessly was a huge development from the well-worn, dusty comic books I was so used to being surrounded by. Although I still love this aesthetic, the prospect of digital art, and a way of translating similarly as characteristic designs but through sleeker means, appeals to me on a different level.

The illustrator Owen Davey came to my recognition by recommendation of my graphics tutor. I am quite adamant sure?? in the fact that upon seeing his work, alongside the modernism research at the time, really solidified my passion for graphic design. His combination of stylish, well-constructed, smooth lines with intriguing, commonly playful subjects seemed to connect everything that had previously struck me visually. After that I started really focusing on my knowledge of digital art making. I thoroughly enjoyed the challenges I set myself, initially designing work for fathomed various?? clients who needed a range of items, from product packing mock-ups to final logos. This ambition and enthusiasm lead me deeper to developing my skills, utilising feedback and also positioned me where I could create designs for real clients, working on briefs for radio stations and local sixth form colleges that were alternative, and had different requirements to my own.

These tasks really gave me an appreciation for working within the industry, gaining a real comprehension of resources available on a larger scale. Studying graphic design at university would provide invaluable opportunity to learn, explore and extend my skills and expertise. The process of joining a community of professionals is extremely exciting to me; my inspiration comes so fluidly that sharing ideas and communicating is sometimes key in separating what works to what doesn't. My art and design foundation course has re-invented the way I see the industry and working with like-minded creative individuals. Collaborating, being able to respond to a task as a unit, while also having the confidence to say if you think the visuals, or the concept aren't quite working I have realised are fundamental to the process of problem solving within a graphics design team.

## PS Criminology

One area I thoroughly enjoyed during my Psychology A-level was Forensic Psychology. Studying the bottom-up approach really interested me due to the fact the police can establish characteristics, and patterns, of an offender from the analysis of crime scene evidence, and match this against a database to reveal vital details such as their personal history and background. With the addition of statistical analysis, I can see how much more objective it is compared to the top-down approach and how it explores and utilises a more scientific side to offender profiling. I also found studying controversial theories such as Lombroso's atavistic theory during my Criminology BTEC astonishing as he based his theory purely on looks. Although his theory was highly offensive due to the fact it was aimed at people of a certain ethnic minority, it was in fact the very early stages of offender profiling and took a more biological view on criminality.

Writing my Extended Project during my A Levels gave me the choice to study aspects of both criminology and psychology in greater depth. I decided to research whether someone's upbringing is the main factor in why people turn to crime in adulthood. This enabled me to study a range of factors which influence criminality such as poverty, drugs and genetics, as well as investigate various child development theories such as Bowlby's theory of Monotrophy. Completing a dissertation helped me adapt my time management skills as I often had to complete assignments to strict deadlines, this helped me to reduce stress and really improved my time management. I also developed my independent learning and research skills as I had to gather all relevant research on my own. These skills have been strengthened further whilst I completed my A-levels in Psychology, History and BTEC Criminology. Undertaking a range of subjects has given me a wide skill set such as dedication, focus and resilience. My A-level in history in particular has given me strong evaluation skills as I often had to examine sources from historians with widely differing viewpoints. It has also strengthened my critical analysis skills as I had to read many documents and artefacts and judge and weigh their significance.

During my gap year I decided to widen my knowledge and take a Social sciences access to higher education course. This has adapted my active listening skills as I am interacting with a diverse group of people with differing levels of experience. This course has enabled me to strengthen my skill set further. We have completed a range of assignments such as essays, independent research tasks and I will be completing a dissertation.

I have always been a team player and willing to support others. This is shown when I completed my Overland Hike during my time at Scouts which required working in a team and using a map to navigate 25 miles. We all took turns leading the group which developed my leadership and clarity skills, and I often motivated my team when it got difficult at certain times. This also developed my endurance skills. During 2016 I became a young leader and was put in charge of children aged 7-8. This improved my leadership skills as I had to make sure they understood all their instructions that I was required to deliver clearly and efficiently, and I often had to adapt the way I spoke to them due to their age. My most recent work experience in customer service has equipped me with the skills and qualities which include multitasking to meet customers' needs as well as re-stock the shelves, and flexibility due to the fact that I am able to change the way I work due to the ever changing fast paced environment.

The wide range of skills and qualities I have gained through my studies, as well as my academic experience equip me well to excel in my chosen degree. I strongly believe they make me a valuable addition to your university.

## PS Criminology

When you take a moment to look at someone, to study them for a second, you can't tell how that person works. There are so many people in the world and thousands of crimes committed every day, yet so many reasons as to why people commit crimes we can't just conglomerate them into just one category.

I am interested in studying Criminology to fulfil a deeper understanding of the causes of crime and how crime affects our society. Analysing crime criminal behaviour will answer questions I have such as 'what makes people commit unthinkable crimes?' How do crimes affect people around us? Does nature create criminals, or nurture? All these questions fuel the passion I have to study criminology.

John Wayne Gacy Junior, a high class business man, tortured, raped and murdered thirty men. I find this case interesting as Gacy was known as a friendly and generous man to co-workers but had a dark side to him nobody saw. Gacy hid the majority of his victims under floorboards in his home, or left them beside a river. Like numerous serial killers, John Wayne Gacy Junior had a very troubled upbringing, leading me to ask the question, can criminals be shaped from their childhood? I have recently read a study where two hundred offenders were asked if they were abused as a child, 90% of them answered yes. I believe childhood trauma can sometimes stay until people snap, resulting in criminal behaviour. Interestingly, if a child grows up with constant physical and emotional abuse, this behaviour may be all they know. When committing a crime they may believe physical violence is the only answer. Additionally, a child may have been 'punished' by violence; so in adulthood, believing victims have done something wrong may result in torturing or murder to 'teach them a lesson.' However, having close friends who have experienced awful childhoods similar to those of criminals, I wonder why trauma causes some to behave abnormally, while others experience the same and go on to behave under society's norms.

Outside studies I am a member of the Worthing Youth Council and have been Vice Chair for two years, being involved with charities such as Worthing Kids and Dapper Snapper. I am also a committed volunteer of Lodge Hills Short break days. I have gained a huge range of communication, organisational, teamwork and leadership skills. I have gained confidence and I feel challenged negative stereotypes of young people while highlighting issues relevant to the young people of Worthing. The Youth Council has opened my eyes to the wider world and let me grow into an independent and driven young adult. As a sales assistant for Debenhams, I have learnt how to keep calm under pressure and to be excellent at time keeping. Having this position for a year and half, shows my dedication to be successful and to help others in anyway which I can.

All my subjects have allowed me to explore human nature. Through law I have considered how laws are created and criminal processes for justice, and have gained an incentive to read independently a variety of different criminal cases. Studying Drama has helped my awareness of how body language and facial expressions suggest a person's behaviour, and appreciate the diverse personalities and influences that cause someone to act in a specific way. Deeper critical analytical skills have stemmed from Psychology, exploring complex human minds alongside examining data in an analytically and scientifically. Understanding social and abnormal rudiments of psychology is essential in building the groundwork into exploring the criminal mind.

I am very much an observer. There is always something new to learn from people as we are very complex creatures. I am dedicated to a career in Criminology and enhancing my knowledge about the criminal mind and understanding of crime. Higher education I know will be challenging but I am motivated, committed and would find the opportunity to study an area I feel as passionate about as Criminology very rewarding.

## PS Criminology

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## PS Dentistry

My interest in pursuing dentistry and oral hygiene was sparked after watching a fascinating TED talk about how fossilised calculus from preserved skeletons can track ancient diseases, gaining better understanding of diseases in modern times. I researched further into oral hygiene and was struck by technological advancements in this field, in particular the development of rebuilding damaged tissue from periodontal disease using nanofibrous membranes. I was inspired to organise work experience to gain further understanding of this field where I was able to utilise skills gained through my A level study. Problem solving, analytical laboratory skills from my Biology and Chemistry and exploring both sides enhanced from my Politics.

I organised 18 hours in a local clinic, comprising NHS and both private patients, shadowing a dental nurse, dental hygienist, and dentist working together made me appreciate the teamwork orientated nature of dentistry. Each professional showed great compassion and care. For example, during a check-up with a child who showed visible distress, the dental nurse calmed her by giving her stickers and the dentist reassured she was in safe hands; they worked together with the mother to de-escalate her fear, showing empathy and excellent communication with the mother. I believe myself to be an effective team player with good communication and social skills. I have established a charity project, collecting donations of medicine, food and hygiene products to be sent to Yemen in a container we fundraise to rent. This fulfilling opportunity has developed my leadership skills, and allowed me to identify skills I must improve, for example managerial skills, where I am making a conscious and active effort to improve.

I feel being bilingual and from an ethnic background, has expanded my ability to appreciate and communicate with people, especially useful in today's multicultural society. In the future I would like to spend time utilising my Arabic and dentistry skills by volunteering abroad with 'Doctors without Borders' to promote basic oral healthcare, often overlooked.

The relationships you build with patients in dentistry and dental hygiene appeals to me as a sociable and outgoing character. Through work experience, I learnt the importance of communicating with your patient clearly, explaining steps after analysing the issue, all whilst keeping the patient comfortable. In my spare time, I enjoy hosting debates for a youth-led podcast, discussing topics such as ethics and animal testing, relevant in healthcare. I engage with listeners and invite guests to join the conversation, benefiting from listening to a wide range of views.

Outside college, I enjoy embroidery and sewing, developing my manual dexterity and keen eye for detail. Whilst observing procedures, for example, root canals, denture fittings, scalings and polishing, it became apparent that dental professionals require these skills to carry out such intricate procedures. One of my most rewarding experiences in the clinic was the CEREC. I observed how the dentist took the 3D impression of the tooth which required a crown, after which I was allowed to choose the shade of ceramic that would be milled. It was exciting to see elements of Design Technology which I am familiar with from GCSE. The dentist advised I organise work experience at a local Prosthodontic lab however, this was disrupted due to COVID.

Dentistry and dental hygiene appeals to me as it's a fusion of the practical application of science, artistic integrity, as well as business prospects. After undertaking my work experience and research, I am keen to be part of such a rewarding, and challenging professional environment that is fully supportive of patient need. I hope that this, in conjunction with my skills and aspirations, show me as an excellent candidate for work in the dental profession.

## PS Design

I am applying for set design/interior design because in my opinion it is a perfect combination of skills. For example, you need technical know-how but also a zeal for creativity. I have grown up in a family where photography, and documentary film making have always been happening around me. My own interests have evolved alongside those of family and friends and I have thought carefully about which route interests me within the creative and cultural world. Through a combination of academic study and completing my A levels, work experience as a photographer's assistant and working with a furniture maker, I now wish to combine these elements into industry specific training which will enable me to work as a designer within film and television. Another reason I want to pursue this route is because at the open day it was made clear to me that all the teachers were in fact practitioners and had spent time working in the industry. That encourages me because that's where I want to take up a career path after having completed the degree.

I am excited about set design having taken a brief access course with Brighton University in 2016, where I learnt to draw plans and create card models. As I explored set design in more detail, I recognised that it was the 'hands on' aspect of this course which inspired me, as I like to make crafts and handle materials, and being able to combine this within the context of film and TV brings these skills together.

I believe that having taken two years out of education to work and travel, I am now in a good position to become a university student. For example, I believe I am ready for placement opportunities, able to act responsibly, and make the best use of work opportunities that arise. In addition to my academic qualifications, I have worked as a photographer's assistant commuting and setting up gear for jobs. I simply acted as an extra pair of hands but within this role I have learnt basic skills and my way around camera gear to an reasonable extent.

My Photography and Graphics A levels taught me to be accurate and precise when creating art work, which I think are relevant attributes for set design. I remain a keen photographer as this is what my Father does for a living. More than that?????????

The set design course I took part in was run by Brighton Film School lecturer, Anna Deamer. Whilst only two months in duration, I realised that I was really looking forward to each session and I developed an interest in it. This course will enable me to adapt and apply these skills to larger and more detailed projects which is an exciting prospect.

In 2014 I spent the summer in Ghana with a charity helping to build a school. Fundraising prior to the visit was rewarded by being part of a team who dug and built the foundations for the school. I am a strong team player and I believe this is a relevant skill, alongside listening and responding to the ideas of others. Useful skills in the creative process.

I love to ski, although I am largely self-taught and I was determined when I left sixth form college to work as a seasonaire in Europe. I am hugely proud of my achievements, and when I was offered the chance to return this winter I decided to accept. I was promoted this season to commis chef, a position which involves taking responsibility. I have worked part time with a cabinet and furniture maker helping him with large scale projects. Most recently, I assisted him with the construction of an aeronautical wind tunnel for a university physics department which was a technical challenge, that the use of large scale industry machines was required.

I think I will really value the time spent on project work to make a decision about what particular route to pursue. The set design requirements for TV and film are so different that I would like to know more.

Committed and motivated and ready for higher education??3710

## PS Drama

The evolution of the dramatic arts is captured in 'The Tempest', a Shakespeare classic. From its creation in the sixteenth century with an all-male cast to 2016 interpretation by Phyllida Lloyd. The all-female socio-political feminist triumph tackled consumerism, sustainability and gender, the universal relevance across all fields of modern society draws me to study drama at a higher level. I am keen to continue developing myself as a performer, as well as broadening abilities in areas such as devising, directing, script writing and analysing.

I am interested in the relationship between acting and other arts in their ability to enhance the significance of theatre. My final performance in A-Level Drama and Theatre Studies included detailed research into Kneehigh Theatre Company. Innovative and creative in their approach, combining contrasting artistic methods such as live music, movement, art and puppetry. Using just brown paper and masking tape, I constructed a large-scale puppet brought to life by adding breath, focus and movement. Having never worked with puppets, I found the experience rewarding as it gave me a new perspective to wider techniques used effectively in modern theatre. This combination of acting, music and art formed a well-rounded and powerful piece of theatre. The genuine pride and accomplishment I felt creating and performing an original piece of drama is why I am determined to continue studying the subject.

I joined a role-play company in order to widen my experience. I took a leading role organising and delivering interactive workshops to medical students. The workshops included confidence building games and improvisations aimed at improving communication skills. This helped me explore the diversity of potential drama careers and use in all types of fields. As a result, I researched drama in regards to psychology. I read a paper from Sussex (Hanrahan and Banerjee 2017) on the socio-motivational impact of drama on marginalised young people. I understood children at risk of emotional and behavioural problems who had participated in drama-group therapy were more likely to have positive outcomes compared to those in a no intervention control. To me this highlighted the significance of drama and theatre in unexpected areas and broadened my understanding of careers after university.

Having studied plays ranging from renaissance tragedies, such as Webster's 'The Duchess of Malfi', to modern political dramas, for instance 'Chimerica' by Lucy Kirkwood, I have developed a diverse understanding of Drama and Literature. I was taught to question character motive and be inquisitive about emotion and interaction, leading to understanding that extensive interpretations can be made about the same plays and characters. For instance, when reading Shakespeare's 'King Lear', Goneril and Regan can be interpreted as barbaric and evil. Alternatively, their cruel behaviour comes from a place of female oppression and in reaction to poor paternal treatment. This learning highlighted the creative potential for actors and directors to rediscover the same plays and interpret them completely differently. It is therefore clear how Phyllida Lloyd managed so successfully to reinterpret 'The Tempest'. She reshaped key themes and significant messages and by doing so highlighted the universal relevance of Shakespeare's work for a modern audience.

Through pursuing a wide range of extracurricular activities both at school and out, I have developed qualities transferrable to my studies. I am a natural leader having been prefect and sports leader, working as part of a team to represent my school and act as a positive role model for younger students. Activities such as dance, gymnastics and dressmaking have taught me perseverance and resilience. Working full time at a restaurant during my gap year I have responsibilities, a strong work ethic and independence. I believe I am a well-rounded individual who would be very hard working Drama Student.



## PS Drama

The evolution of the dramatic arts is captured in 'The Tempest', a Shakespeare classic. From its creation in the sixteenth century with an all-male cast to 2016 interpretation by Phyllida Lloyd. The all-female socio-political feminist triumph tackled consumerism, sustainability and gender, the universal relevance across all fields of modern society draws me to study drama at a higher level. I am keen to continue developing myself as a performer, as well as broadening abilities in areas such as devising, directing, script writing and analysing.

I am interested in the relationship between acting and other arts in their ability to enhance the significance of theatre. My final performance in A-Level Drama and Theatre Studies included detailed research into Kneehigh Theatre Company. Innovative and creative in their approach, combining contrasting artistic methods such as live music, movement, art and puppetry. Using just brown paper and masking tape, I constructed a large-scale puppet brought to life by adding breath, focus and movement. Having never worked with puppets, I found the experience rewarding as it gave me a new perspective to wider techniques used effectively in modern theatre. This combination of acting, music and art formed a well-rounded and powerful piece of theatre. The genuine pride and accomplishment I felt creating and performing an original piece of drama is why I am determined to continue studying the subject.

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## PS Eco & Politics

The recent crisis of Brexit, a Trumpian America and, more recently, COVID-19 have been key in awakening my interest in both Politics and Economics. The deals and negotiations involved in these processes have really intrigued me as they've shown me how delicate, yet fundamental, diplomacy is. The more I have read the more I have wanted to learn about these processes. A liberal at heart, I hope to master my understanding of the actions of the greediest few at the top, and use my knowledge to narrow the growing wealth gap. I believe a joint Economics and Politics degree is perfect for me, as it draws together two of my A levels: Maths and Classical Civilisation. In Classics we studied the political structures of the ancient societies of Greece and Rome, which formed the bedrock of my political interests. Throughout my learning I was drawn to the blatant similarities between the systems of the late Roman republic and modern America, both relying on a senate of elected officials to influence political decisions, despite having no power as individuals. The tornado of bills implemented by Augustus to enforce the Pax Augusta draws many parallels with those implemented by Trump in the last four years. In Maths we studied algebraic modelling in order to predict real life outcomes; I found this very satisfying as it beautifully simplified the unpredictability of real life. Whilst I am coming at Economics with a clean slate, I am already very comfortable with statistical analysis. I have an inherent love of structure and system and am thus drawn to the greatest structural system on earth: the economy.

I have always held an interest in politics and joined the Labour Party at the earliest age possible to become more involved in politics at a ground level. I am however open-minded and appreciate the varying priorities everyone has. I often watch political documentaries, on both contemporary and historic politics, most recently 'The Trump Show' - a forensic analysis on the president's time in office by the BBC. I was especially interested in the narcissistic nature of Trump, escalating to a messiah syndrome, and how narcissism is not necessarily a negative factor in power - as proven by infamous leaders like Caesar and Napoleon. I have recently read Christopher Ryan's book 'Civilised to Death; the price of progress' which questions humans' true progress and whether capitalism and structure have truly improved our fundamental happiness as a species. The stock market has always really intrigued me and recently I have acted on this, starting to invest my savings into index fund stocks. Whilst I am something of a novice I am loving the analysis and tactics involved before deciding where to invest.

Being a very pragmatic learner, I am best when learning hard facts and information. I also have an inquisitive, analytical brain which enables me to question and break down data and isolate key pieces of information and their significance. Having always flourished at both Maths and essay-based subjects, yet never managing to settle on a favourite between the two types of learning, I feel I'm perfect for this joint degree.

Reading has always been a large part of my routine, reading genres ranging from historic novels to autobiographies to non-fiction. During lockdown I have been teaching myself French so I can travel through France, where my family heritage lies. Over the last few years being in professional workspaces have taught me diligence and reliability, as well as how to interact with people from all walks of life. I have played competitive football for most of my life, captaining the team on many occasions.

Having taken a break from academia I know feel ready, and keen, to embark on the challenges and rewards that higher level study will bring.

## PS Economics

Economics affects all sectors of the modern world. It is the significance of economics and the way it influences and determines personal behaviour, business and governments that first drew me to take the subject at A Level, and it has continued to spark my interest to study it at a deeper level as an undergraduate. I felt instantly engaged with economics from the moment I began my A Level in the subject. It has opened my eyes to the value of economic theories, such as game theory, and their influence on decision making, whether it be tackling growing world problems of climate change and poverty or looking at the monetary consequences of Brexit on the UK and on a wider scale, Europe. One of the most appealing reasons to study Economics is the diversity of the subject and the numerous career paths it opens, and this has motivated my aspiration and enthusiasm to pursue the subject further.

Alongside Economics, I studied Maths and Biology at A level. I also chose to take the LIBF Level 2 Award in Financial Education as an extracurricular activity, which taught me the value of personal financial budgeting as well as about taxation and employment. I was awarded a Merit but, most importantly, it helped me develop the invaluable skills of critical analysis, verbal communication through teamwork and classroom discussions as well as essay writing experience. Studying Maths at A Level gave me a significant advantage with my learning of economics, especially with large data sets, statistics and problem solving, enhancing my understanding of economic theories and concepts. I particularly enjoyed studying econometrics and I believe good maths skills are key to understanding and analysing statistical models. It is also an area I would like to explore further in both my studies and as a career. Biology A Level helped develop my practical, analytical and team-working skills and also highlighted how economic decisions can influence not only the financial world but the environment and natural world, too.

My interest in economics extends beyond my education. I make sure I keep up to date with daily news from around the world, especially stories that are relevant to economics. I follow many economics-related pages on Twitter and YouTube, from Bloomberg and UNU-WIDER so I am constantly exposed to new and relevant information through different mediums, including videos, podcasts and documentaries. *The Economist* has produced a series of interesting and informative videos, including 'Doping in sport: why it can't be stopped', which explores the economic issues behind corruption in sport by athletics committees and governments. Reddit has become one of my favourite sources of stories with posts covering a range of opinions and debates from around the world on economic subjects, such as the current trade war between the US and China.

I am currently taking a gap year to travel and gain work experience, and I plan to volunteer overseas later in 2020 before continuing with my studies. Recently, I went interrailing for a month with a group of friends and really enjoyed experiencing different cultures and languages. Outside college, I regularly take part in sporting activities and I like to keep fit. I played football in a local team from the age of 8–18. I also played for my school and college teams. I believe playing competitive sports has helped me develop valuable teamwork, communication, time-management and leadership skills. I've also volunteered at my local football team to coach the younger age groups and have taken part in and volunteered at my local parkrun as part of the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

I would consider myself to be hardworking, motivated and driven. I enjoy a challenge and believe my economic studies so far have given me an excellent insight into the diversity of the subject as well as a greater determination to study it in more depth in order to fulfil an ambition to be one of the next generation's modern economists. 3978

## PS Education

From educating my class of 'build-a-bears' at home to screaming orders at fellow classmates at lunchtimes in the library, it has been my desire to pursue a career in Primary Education. A couple of years ago, my childhood fantasy became a real ambition upon reading 'Teachers plant the seeds of knowledge that will grow forever' on a card my stepmother was given by one of her students. This quote reinforced my belief in the importance of education, and the ability to teach children fundamental skills they will use for life. A gift I aspire to possess.

Psychology A-level has provided me with highly relevant knowledge in a classroom environment. Social influences show behaviour can be dependent on conformity and social support. Psychopathology demonstrates how behaviour can be influenced by classical and operant conditioning. Understanding how a child's 'negative' behaviour may be as a result of psychological influences means I can support them to alter their behaviour. I strongly believe a healthy state of mind is vital in order to make good educational progress. Allowing children to express themselves is extremely important. Whilst undertaking part-time work for "Arty Rascals", (creative and sensory experiences for children aged 0-10 years), I have seen how art therapy allows children to release merely by putting on an apron for a few hours. Studying Drama and Theatre Studies has increased my confidence and furthered my ability to project my voice; both necessary qualities to control a class of children. Whilst assisting at 'Stagecoach', one of Brighton's performing arts schools, I led warm ups and supported the teacher in being inclusive, managing behaviour and comforting children aged 4-6 years. From this I have observed the positive impact that singing, acting and dancing has on increasing children's confidence and self-esteem.

Every Tuesday undertake work experience with Year Two at a local Infant and Nursery school. I always leave having learnt something completely new about primary education; the challenges presented, different working methods and teacher's techniques. Work experience has given me a real insight into the demands of being a teacher, allowing me to observe the reality of the classroom. I have learnt patience is one of the most necessary qualities when dealing with distracting students. I've observed the teacher calmly removing students from a lesson, creating a space for the child to think, then bringing them back in after having a conversation and reintegrating them with the class with a new approach. My favorite activity so far has been supporting a child one-to-one listening to them read, helping when they're struggling, but watching their smile grow as they get to the exciting part of their book. My strongest quality is enthusiasm. The children get easily frustrated when they can't work out the words, but with encouragement, they carry on swiftly. This experience has allowed me to appreciate the importance of these formative years at primary school, which in turn has fired my motivation to become a teacher.

I work part-time at a laser tag center hosting children's birthday parties. Being a party host is exciting yet exhausting. I have learnt to multitask; Being routinely interrupted whilst simultaneously maintaining control and, comforting a crying child who fears the dark. Leadership is key to being successful in enthusing and caring for the children. I have a specialism too. For deaf customers, I am able to provide British Sign Language communication support, I have a Level Two certificate in British Sign Language, in addition to the fact that I have close family who are Deaf and sign language users.

I have the drive and skills required to succeed in Primary Education Studies, and after completing this degree, with a specialism in ages 3-7, I hope to make my goal of teaching in a primary school a reality.

## PS Engineering

My interest in engineering has been ingrained in me from a very young age. From building remote control cars with my father as a child to finding innovative guitar sounds on my pedal board, designing and discovering new things always given me the same sense of challenge and achievement that I continue to strive for. These moments in time may seem small, but to me they continue to push me forward and to further my understanding and enthusiasm for engineering. This same sense of achievement can be found in Mathematics for me. Whereas my interest in engineering was self-discovered, I come from a family of maths teachers which embedded a passion for problem solving and logical thinking. I got the same sense of accomplishment from solving a maths question as I did from building things with my father and therefore grew to love the subject with a passion.

To further develop my understanding, during secondary school I completed work experience. I was selected for a company called i2i Media. I wanted to try to see if I would get the same feeling of accomplishment from media projects as with my other endeavours. Throughout my time there I was extremely driven as every day we worked on a new project which further progressed my skills. I was able to utilise my Maths abilities to help solve problems they laid out for us. This pushed my team working skills to the limit as I also had to work with new people. It was honestly a great learning experience and allowed me to explore how my skills could be linked to real world situations in the future.

Work experience also solidified that Maths, Physics and Computer Science at A-Level was imperative for me to study as I wanted to study subjects that not only was I interested in, but also that would push me to the limit of my understanding. The practical links between these subjects is what made them attractive to me. In maths my ability to complete independent work skyrocketed as the result of having to meet deadlines every week. Physics really helped further my team working skills as we had to undertake practical sessions in lessons with others, and we would have to use our results to demonstrate the fundamentals of physics. This meant our skill sets had to be on point and well-coordinated to make sure our results were as accurate as possible. My problem-solving skills have increased enormously since computer science has given me new ways to approach certain styles of questions. This has helped me in other subjects to tackle and succeed with areas I would otherwise might have struggled in such as harder problem-solving questions in maths or thinking differently in terms of physics and looking for links I might not have seen beforehand.

I enjoy developing my skills inside and outside of education and am always striving towards my full potential; this can be demonstrated outside of school where I play football in a six-a-side team. Playing in a smaller team, I must be a good team player as well as focus on my individual performance. As well as working in teams I also like to further myself independently. I have played guitar for 10 years and is my favourite pastime to this day as I am constantly finding new things to learn and share with my teacher or friends. I enjoy discovering songs with new elements, so I am always improving and finding something new, be it a new technique or finding a new tone that sounds amazing. It never fails to give me the same sense of achievement I get from engineering whilst allowing my creativity to flourish wherever I see fit.

Every day I strive to do something new to progress myself and my future opportunities. I would love to study further in the next stage of my life to better myself in every way possible. I am a very hard-working and committed student who is ready for both the challenges and rewards that studying at university can bring in the future.

## PS English Literature

There is a pervading thought amongst scholars that the study of the canon is essential to having an advanced understanding of English Literature. Although classic novels such as *Wuthering Heights*, are timeless, the majority are still essentially white heterosexual stories set in colonial worlds. Modern authors such as Zadie Smith and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie whose novels such as *NW* and *Americana* respectively, use multiple narrative perspectives and non-linear structure (no comma) to tell stories of young black lives that have never previously had a voice.

Something I find extremely interesting is using this idea and this lens to look back on literature from the past and applying postcolonial and feminist thought. My ideas about feminist theory were supplemented by Rita Felski and her book *Literature after Feminism*. This idea often makes scholars uncomfortable as they see it as an *attack* on the classics rather than a re-examination. Critical theorists such as Roland Barthes and his essay 'Death of the Author' gave me a new perspective on author intention, theorizing that author intention is a restrictive concept and essentially useless especially regarding analysis. Reading 'Machinal' (add") by Sophie Treadwell introduced me to expressionist theatre and feminist theatre in general. Genres that I hope to further explore and expand on. English Literature A level helped me progress my critical skills as well as my love for literature. Studying *Jane Eyre* in the coursework section I could analyse Bertha and her portrayal through a postcolonial lens, not destroying the enjoyment of the novel but just accepting its flaws.

History A Level has progressed my analytical and research skills which has not only added to my academic skills but has also given me the ability to understand literature in its historical context. Studying the history of democracy and political reform from 1780 to 1928, has added to my knowledge of literature context. I attended a Lecture at the University of Sussex on the fall of the USSR and its effects on the modern political landscape (no comma) to expand my knowledge beyond the specification. World history is also of great interest to me, and studying Chinese History at A level and researching West African history in my own time has expanded my interest. Reading 'Wild Swans' and 'Things Fall Apart' (both ") amongst other texts has built on an interest in literature in translation and non-European history and literature which I hope to develop more at University.

My study of Classical Civilisations where my literature skills and historical skills met. Herodotus's *The Histories* is an example of where the line between history and literature blurs. Studying the Persian wars and the fall of the Republic has created a great base on which to build as I have studied what many have referred to as the foundations of Western society and culture. I also studied the *Odyssey* and the *Aeneid*, two epic poems which some refer to as the root of modern western literature. One can see their influence throughout history from Joyce and Eliot all the way back to *Beowulf*. In first year of college, I travelled to Italy and visited many historical sites such as Pompeii and Herculaneum which gave me a real-life perspective on my studies.

At my college, I ran the Feminist society. As well as being my privilege this developed my team work and leadership skills as well as my public speaking and organisation skills. We organised charity events and raised money for various charities throughout the year. Diversity is incredibly important to me and I am an active member of the LGBT community. My other interests include singing and guitar as well as pottery. I also have a keen interest in Film and film theory. I took a gap year in order to gain real world perspective and experience that I feel is necessary to academically excel. I believe I am a good candidate for an English degree as I am hardworking, curious and dedicated to everything I approach.

## PS Eng Lit

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## PS Eng & Drama

It is a privilege to read books. It was upon reading 'A Thousand Splendid Suns' that this realisation occurred; the sympathetic depiction of lives in an oppressive, war-torn society jarringly informed me of the significant influence politics and media has upon my perceptions of the world. Khaled Hosseini's exploration of female isolation encouraged my empathetic approach to Tennessee Williams' 'A Streetcar Named Desire'. Similarly, Euripides' enigmatic presentation of 'Medea' helped me understand the extent of women's struggles in Ancient Greece. Despite contrasting contexts and settings, all three texts are ultimately linked through the struggles of the protagonists; shockingly, the fact that Mariam and Blanche are women catalyses their suffering. For the first time, I understood how fortunate I was, as a woman, to be able to pick up a book and read it. All three works expanded my perception of privilege and thus I want to study English because literature engages with social, political and economic issues, forcing us to confront them.

Likewise, I believe examining the legacies of Classical societies prompts us to reflect upon our own, allowing us to study the consequences of certain situations for both the individual and society as a whole. It is interesting to see, for example, the destructive effect of hubris in both Ancient politics and literature. The fall of the Roman Republic presents to us a real-life example of total disintegration of state and system, and its collapse is often attributed to the arrogance and pride of Julius Caesar, which thus in turn resulted in his assassination. Such hubris is also evident in Aeschylus' tragedy 'Persians', where Xerxes' own conceit results in the defeat of his entire empire, and the image of a king ruined by his own arrogance has become a timeless concept throughout literature. Indeed, we see a similar collapse of personal and political power in 'King Lear'. I am struck by the fragility of civilisation and the frailty of democratic order that these topics illustrate. Such ideas lie both in literature and Classical history; they reflect each other, literature telling of the lessons history teaches. It is this reciprocal connection that intrigues me and fills me with excitement at the prospect of studying Classics.

My studies exploring the ease with which civilisation can disintegrate have informed an interest in dystopian fiction. This was my chosen genre for my EPQ Artefact for which I wrote and illustrated a short story, and I was largely inspired by the violent tyrannies of Sulla and Nero. I am fascinated by the horror of dystopia, and it's exploration of the limits of human endurance, aptly illustrated in texts such as Kazuo Ishiguro's 'Never Let Me Go' and Margaret Atwood's 'The Handmaid's Tale'.

My interest in the Ancient Languages prompted me to attend introductory Latin lessons last year, and I look forward to learning the language in more depth. Performing in productions of Euripides' 'Medea' at Brighton Open Air Theatre and Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' as part of Shakespeare's School Festival enabled me to enjoy bringing written drama to life on stage and to witness the impact of the actors' and directors' interpretations on the play as a whole.

From the satirical meta-fiction of Kurt Vonnegut's 'Slaughterhouse-Five', to the most poignant of John Donne's Holy Sonnets, literature perpetually reveals, reflects and exposes the world it was written in. It also, however, illuminates the present. I find Shakespeare's 'Lear' to be a poignant exploration of the human experience itself, illustrating the conflict, struggle and pain we all face. Literary texts have also given me invaluable insight into the lives of others, and an education in empathy. Nonetheless, I know I have barely scratched the surface of a subject offering so much and yet I have the privilege of being able to dig deeper. There are centuries of wisdom weaved into the pages of literature, both Classical and modern, and I want to be enlightened.



## PS Eng Lit

The world around us is full of enticing stories providing us with endless amounts of wisdom and entertainment, making English a compelling subject to study. I am fascinated by the ability of a great writer to evoke our strongest emotional responses and expand our imaginations through the power of the written word.

As a result of my interest in writing, I took A-levels in English Literature, History and Politics as well as an EPQ in which I explored the female suffrage campaign. These have provided me with many transferable skills that are complimentary to English. History has taught me about various events through narrative accounts and consolidated my ability to apply contexts to written works, whilst Politics enabled me to develop analytical and evaluative abilities by comparing topics of the past and present. Combined with my study of English Literature, my A levels have strengthened my writing abilities and comprehension skills which are invaluable to the study of English.

I have found myself compelled by texts which grapple with complex subjects, particularly ones which deal with social class and expose how the nature of society creates inequality and impacts us as individuals; I first discovered this upon reading Dickens' novel 'Great Expectations'. The bildungsroman structure of the novel created a captivating, thought-provoking critique of social disparities which made me think deeply and critically about my own experiences, reinforcing how the introspective quality of literature holds up a mirror to reality and forces us to examine the ways we live and interact within our lives.

The role of women in literature has always been important to me. Upon noticing the severe shortage of female writers within the syllabus, I have looked for works by women which explore gender inequality and female empowerment. For example, Atwood's 'The Handmaid's Tale' stood out to me in this respect as although the novel is dystopian and the regime fictional, it is evident that real aspects of the contemporary female role informed the subject matter, emphasising the ability of writing to address genuine social issues and intensifying my love for English as a result.

My passion for writing has been strengthened by the social turbulence we are currently experiencing. I aspire to pursue a writing career in the future and have undertaken freelance writing to hone my skills in preparation. A workshop I participated in with the app Fledglink taught me copywriting skills such as SEO and content pitching, subsequently leading to me writing articles for their site. Overall, I believe studying English will be invaluable in supporting my goals for the future as well as sustaining my long-term interests.

I have engaged in various extra-curriculars to support my passion for English. Attending university has always been my ambition, and so I took part in widening participation programmes at Reading and Sussex universities whilst in year 12. These gave me a valuable insight into higher-level study that has raised my confidence in my decision to continue my studies. On these programmes my chosen subject strand was English, meaning I was introduced to it at university level – this confirmed to me that English was my true passion which I wanted to pursue. Additionally, these programmes enabled me to improve my study skills and work with many new people. Therefore, partaking in WP programmes has put me in a stronger position in terms of applying for and attending university.

My part-time job at Primark has been advantageous in helping me to improve my time-management, as I have learnt to balance my education with paid employment. This will be of use at university as I will be balancing academic studies with part-time work like I have already done consistently. Working has also improved my sense of responsibility and task focus, which will be beneficial when it comes to pursuing higher education.

## PS English Literature

## PS Eng Lit

Reading Rosamund Lehmann's 'Invitation To The Waltz', I share Alan Bennett's Hector's belief that the best moments in reading are when one feels as if "a hand has come out and taken yours". It is easy to understand why the rise of the study of English Literature occurred primarily after World War 1, when texts like T. S. Eliot's 'The Waste Land' and, more controversially, D. H. Lawrence's 'Lady Chatterley's Lover' attempted to make sense of their shell-shocked society. For me, this "hand" continues to reach out to another shocked society though Tony Kushner's 'Angels in America', as it examines America's social and political values following the AIDS crisis.

The interconnection of ideas is central to my courses. My study of James I provided an insight to my reading of 'The Tempest' and its concerns with the right to rule, through an understanding of James' uncertain claims to the throne. Machiavelli's 'The Prince' helped me understand Prospero as a ruler: maintaining the illusion of morality in public, contradicting it in private. The issues of race and identity explored in Toni Morrison's 'Jazz' have illuminated for me Obama's bid for the presidency: though a step towards healing slavery's scar on America, it simultaneously highlights how much further there is to go. Literature's "hand" helps me see my world in new ways.

When reading 'Madame Bovary' I was struck by the parallels between the experiences of the protagonist and Sylvia Plath, presented in both 'The Bell Jar' and poems such as 'Ariel'. This link illustrates my belief that literature provides a bridge between people and experience – it is remarkable to me that a nineteenth century French novelist can describe the same feeling as Sylvia Plath's heroine in 'The Bell Jar'. I have resolved to rediscover French this year through evening classes and work experience in French this summer, and hope to be able to read 'Madame Bovary' in its original language by the end of my degree.

My interest in drama also opens windows into literature. My attitude to the characters in the original 'Noughts and Crosses' changed as I watched the RSC production, and this experience reinforced how theatre compels the actor and audience to consider the reality of the characters, and in this way examine the enigmas of human behaviour. My theatre company, 'Shake Shake Shake Your Shakespeare', tried several approaches before coming to a believable dynamic between Benedick and Beatrice in our production of 'Much Ado About Nothing', which I later saw to be very different to Nicholas Hytner's choice in his National Theatre production, emphasising literature's capacity for a diversity of readings. As well as my directorial work with the Shakespeare Youth Festival, I have performed in 'The Taming of the Shrew' as part of the Shakespeare Schools Festival and am also a peer mentor for the National Youth Theatre. This led to my job with Intrepid Theatre Company as a teaching assistant, when I undertook a production of 'The Wind in the Willows' with 4-12 year olds. Working in different areas of theatre has made me appreciate how performance can bring a text to life, something I found particularly during my work experience on Peter Eotvos' 'Love and Other Demons' at Glyndebourne. The minimalist music of the opera, the light symbolism of the staging and the shared scenes capture some of the magic realism of Gabriel Garcia Marquez's novel.

My experiences as editor of the student magazine at BHASVIC and creative director of my previous school's magazine 'DiSH' have enabled me to develop my writing style, and further appreciate others' writing. My role as lyricist and singer for my band 'The Nigels' has increased my desire to know more about poetry, and its importance within literature. I long to be at university, I see it as somewhere I can become utterly absorbed in literature, and amongst similarly enthused people. I crave the encouragement and impetus this atmosphere would give me.

To make a societal change we must first make a change at the individual level-causing a green butterfly effect. I believe actions speak louder than words, which is why I am an RHS & Green party member who has made changes to embrace a more sustainable lifestyle: adopting a plant-based diet, eliminating my palm oil consumption and reducing food waste where possible, to name a few. This year Tesco set a 300% sales target for plant-based alternatives within the next five years, showing how large corporations become more sustainable if the demand requires it. Fortunately, these environmental issues are becoming part of the mainstream political & economic conversation; I hope to be a leaf on the already vast academic tree, progressing our species to return to a more ecologically harmonious relationship. I want to study Environmental Science to educate and articulate myself so I can share knowledge to the general public, forming a more informed and compassionate population.

In March, before the pandemic, I visited the Eden Project. It was fascinating to walk around the artificial biomes and to talk to the people so eager to share their knowledge about the biodiversity and the symbiotic relationships between them. My most memorable experience was seeing the enormous monstera deliciosas. As an indoor gardener I am proud of my five foot cheese plant, but seeing these sixty foot giants in the simulated native Central American rainforest conditions was astonishing. After visiting the Eden Project I started making terrariums, varying the plants and substrates I would use. It is captivating to watch food chains form and a new biosphere thrive with minimal upkeep, and I'd find it fascinating to study how biotic and abiotic factors interact within a complex ecosystem at degree level.

At sixth-form I was part of the student union chosen to represent both my tutor and mathematics classes, as part of the effort to improve the environment for all students; one initiative was to introduce paper and plastic recycling in all classrooms and hallways to reduce unnecessary waste. On the weekends during college I worked at a plant nursery expanding my plant species knowledge and agricultural methods, as well as improving my communication skills. After finishing college I began teaching myself the guitar. The way the vibrations move through the body, the spicy smell of the cedar hardwood top, the knowledge the material forming this instrument playing a rudimentary wonderwall once belonged to a small tree living in the Mediterranean.

During quarantine, I have been volunteering at my local nature reserve. Here I help a team of countryside management students maintain paths and streams, remove litter and protect biodiversity- which I feel has also improved my team working skills. Due to the government's restrictions on travel the reserve has been more active, seeing my community enjoy the fruits of our labours gives me a sense of accomplishment- well worth the muddy nails. Reading Aldo Leopold's 'A Sand County Almanac', it was evident how out of touch I was to my local wildlife: "tell me of what plant-birthday a man takes notice, and I shall tell you a good deal about his vocation, his hobbies, his hayfever, and the general level of his ecological education". On my first day with the team I met a young man named Thomas who suffers from Autism and is shy. Clearing a small dam I found a log which had mycelium growing within, I showed him the log expecting him not to know what it was, but to my surprise he enthusiastically began telling me facts about fungi which I had never heard- he knew his plant birthdays well! I wish to surround myself with peers that have the same enthusiasm for the outdoors as myself.

Through this degree programme I look forward to further my understanding, exploring this science at a higher level, to become skilled and valuable in the field, helping produce a positive transformation in our society for future generations.

## PS Enviro Science

The number of natural disasters and environmental problems occurring now, and looming on the horizon is ever growing. I want to be part of the academic community that finds a solution to problems such as; the pacific gyre, global warming and the hurricanes currently devastating parts of America and the Caribbean. As a keen surfer from the age of eleven, I have always had an urge to explore below the waves and gain knowledge of what may lie beneath. There was a moment during a field trip to Croatia, during a kayaking trip where we were struck by the famous Bura wind. This type of natural spectacle has made me realise how interested I am in geographical phenomena.

Being lucky enough to grow up surrounded by the south downs and the stunning chalk cliffs on the south coast, I have watched these features change throughout my life. For example, the cliff collapse at Seaford in East Sussex made me realise I enjoy having the geographical understanding as to why these things happen and I want to investigate that to a higher level. My connection with, and interest in the coast and the ocean started at the age of 11 when I had my first surfing lesson. Ever since then my interest in geography classes blossomed because I wanted to know more about how the waves I could ride were formed. Recently, I have become more interested in the flooding and drought topics we have been studying because the chance of flooding is becoming a much bigger possibility due to climate change and global warming.

By signing to an additional portfolio course in Science in Society I have broadened my vision on topics such as oil spills and their effects on the environment and marine wildlife, the global goals and radioactivity. I was especially interested in the Ted talks lectures such as the global goals episode which asked the question if it's possible to achieve these aims. This made me realise that through geography and biology I would have a chance to impact these goals.

Other subjects???

After working at the local bakery in my village for two years I have proved my commitment and reliability, which can be applied to my studies at university and my enthusiasm to complete the course. Having a job for two years has given me responsibility to complete the task being set on the shift; becoming independent and self-reliant has meant I am used to having responsibility for a workload requiring good time management. Being an assistant swim teacher has also improved my leadership and teaching skills. I play an important role in helping young people to gain water confidence. These would be important assets for university when undertaking fieldwork or data collection in groups to be able to effectively collect accurate data.

In 2015 I achieved the highest level of hockey I have ever played at, representing the South East of England against other regional areas. I was lucky enough to play at the Olympic hockey pitch and score a goal for my team. Now, I am currently playing for East Grinstead Hockey Club Men's 2nd team which is a very high standard. I would relish the challenge of playing in a highly competitive university team.

In 2000 it was estimated that 95% of the earth's oceans are unexplored and 99% of the oceans sea beds are unexplored. There is so much more to be discovered in this area which is one of the main reasons I am so intrigued by it. My gap year plans include skiing, surfing and travelling providing me with more opportunities to explore the natural world.

I have always been a very conscientious individual and acknowledged what is happening in the world around me. There was never one significant moment in my life when I realised my fascination for the environment, it has just always been something I am passionate about. For example at the age of just twelve I made the independent choice to follow vegetarianism as I was aware of the possible harm it caused to other beings, discovering the many damaging impacts it has on the environment and sticking to it ever since. In later years I have been able to travel which is what brought everything together for me. Seeing ecosystems first hand such as rainforests, coral reefs, mangrove forests and the chalk grassland I'm surrounded by at home made me want to study further. To have a career I can in some way help protect or enable the world and the planet we live in, would be the most satisfying and rewarding career I can imagine.

In college I studied Environmental Studies which is why I want to extend my learning in the subject. In particular I enjoyed learning about many types of ecosystems, as I have I have always been fascinated by their fragility, so overwhelming and powerful, yet can be so easily destroyed by something as minor as a few degrees in temperature change. Outside college I have watched many documentaries from David Attenborough's "Our Planet" exploring human impacts across the entire world to places many of us will never see, to Hugh Fearnely Whittingstall's "War on Waste" highlighting human impacts caused by a population as small as your own neighbourhood. One of my favourite books I've read was "what has nature ever done for us?" by Tony Jupiter looking at the services nature provides that keep the economy going. I found it interesting to understand the economic advantage to nature, as well as essential materials it provides to keep us alive. I have incorporated many changes into my life style to reduce my environmental impact, such as plastic free July. I even took my environmental passion into my other subjects such as photography, focusing one of my main projects on human impacts on the environment. Being able to express this real passion in topics allowed me to easily explain the reasoning behind the images and motivate myself which I think is why I found this subject so successful.

Another big stage of my life so far, after collage was volunteering with VSO. I spent three months living with a host family in rural Cambodia. The main aim of the project was helping youth in education and work, however we also aimed to support the community in areas we thought most in need, which we concluded was the local environment. We visited the fishing community and local farms. I was chosen to deliver a presentation on the impacts of fishing and use of pesticides, a great opportunity I really valued and was incredibly rewarding. I gained a huge range of personal skills such as leadership skills whilst having to deal with a language barrier. I also developed independence from living away from home and learning to adapt to my new surroundings quickly. My reliability and time keeping improved as well as confidence in myself. I have since travelled more, including island hopping in the Philippines embracing the natural beauty of the world I would never see from home. To the other extremes of the huge disasters humans can cause when visiting locations like the Chernobyl Exclusion zone. Even after taking in all these new experiences I'm still challenging myself at home with taking on different things, for example I have started my first season of women's rugby with a local team.

It is a combination of this ongoing fascination I have with the environment and how it works, combined with the amazing, unique experiences I've had during my life so far and this desire to challenge and push myself that I hope makes me the right candidate for this course at your university.

## PS Events Management

I am a young aspiring Events Manager and would love to study Event Management at University, to achieve a greater understanding of the subject and skills necessary to progress my chosen career in this new, exciting and flourishing sector. I particularly love the opportunities presented in the placement year, and the chance to make early contacts in the industry.

I have always been drawn to events, attending many as both consumer and client, and as a worker myself. I am interested in the mechanisms behind successful events of all types and sizes and excited to learn about it all.

I am a friendly, confident and motivated person, quick to learn and not afraid to get stuck in in collaborative environments. I have a range of academic achievements, personal skills and qualities that make me, I believe, a strong candidate for further study. Graphic Design has developed my creative and innovative style; I have very strong Photoshop skills and am confident using other ICT tools. I am a creative thinker – with the keen eye of a designer and appreciation for high quality. I believe I am able to promote events on websites and social media, planning campaigns in order to reach an audience. For example I have set up an online graphic design social media page, in order to promote my personal designs.

Sociology helped me understand the effects primary and secondary institutions have on people, and how this makes people react which will be a valuable asset in Events Management when working with clients. I have also gained confidence in discussion, debate, and negotiation.

Business Studies taught me how to develop a strong understanding of how organisations operate. Improving my communication skills (oral and written), decision making and analytical problem solving, and presentation and report writing skills. My self-motivation increased hugely due to frequent coursework, which also built my initiative and time management skills.

I have gained a professional yet personable demeanour in jobs and work experience – I have worked as a cleaner, and in Topshop over the last two years. I believe I make a strong difference to both teams and have gained experience and skills that drive me to work hard. I have also built rapport and solved queries with clients. In my current job I help at events such as Lewes Bonfire Night, Brighton football stadium, the London to Brighton Veteran Car rally and the London to Brighton bike ride, in security, marshalling and traffic control jobs. In addition I have advertised babysitting services online and have regular families I work for. Across all I work flexible and long hours; being organised and well time managed.

I completed work experience at American Express within their Travel and Lifestyle department working for two consecutive summers gaining excellent references. Duties included making bookings for clients, minute taking, interviewing, and meeting with Amex clients at the Dorchester Hotel and O2 in London. This work gave me an insight into working as part of a team in business and events planning, and has been a particular inspiration behind my desire to join the industry.

In my spare time I enjoy music, travel and attending events. I have visited many countries and have grown up with festivals. I have been a member of Brighton and Hove Athletics club and Phoenix running club and have competed at various levels. I like to keep my fitness up by going to the gym. I also achieved The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award. My intentions are to join clubs and societies, socialising within the University as a balance to my academic work.

This year I have decided to take a gap year before University where I will add to my work experience before going travelling in the spring which will develop my maturity, independence and understanding of other cultures.

I am excited to study this course as it fits my personality and will provide the skills, experience and qualifications necessary for my future career.

## PS Fashion

Sustainability is a major consideration in the fashion industry, one I am extremely passionate about. I feel the purchasing experience should be 'Buy less. Choose well. Make it last. Quality, not quantity.' - Vivienne Westward. By creating comfortable clothes in beautiful and technologically advanced materials, with cutting-edge modern silhouettes, garments with durability can be produced in a sustainable way. This is my aim for my future work. Technology is progressing with the times of the changing environment, encouraging me to want to learn more and work with it. I was intrigued when I read that Stella McCartney had recently collaborated with Bolt Threads (NYC) to create a novel, natural, sustainable material used in classic wearable designs, which I am in admiration of. Additionally, Orsola De Castro's work with the British fashion council has inspired me to think more wisely about what I purchase, as well as influencing my work to be more sustainable.

I have also found that the likes of Nike and Adidas have developed products from recycled materials which is producing less waste and toxins. This is subsequently benefitting our planet and allowing the apparel industry to move forward and set the benchmark for competition. Recently attending a workshop and talk inspired by the 'MAKE SMTHNG' program by Greenpeace has motivated me to include similar topics in my work, and gave me a stronger knowledge of the problem and ways to solve it.

Structure, shape and form are qualities I look for in garments; therefore I always create designs with these characteristics in mind. I take inspiration from designers who have changed fashion history such as Christobel Balenciaga and Christian Dior. Attending the 'Balenciaga: Shaping fashion' exhibition gave me further insight to his designs through pattern and structure, as well as exhibiting how shape has evolved into an array of different forms within garments. I admire the Dior house and their traditional techniques, which produce high quality structural pieces. I have also fallen in love with the elegance and detailing on the movement filled pieces of Ralph and Russo, whether that be haut couture or ready to wear. Working at a local boutique for work experience gave me a better insight from a customer's point of view and how to appeal to this as a designer. It also allowed me to become more familiar with more luxurious garments.

Vogue Runway, WGSN, Elle, Fashionista, Dezeen and Design boom are all resources I use to keep up to date with trends and the creative industry. I also attend events and exhibitions, these include 'Alexander McQueen: Savage Beauty', Mona Hatoum, 'Vogue 100', as well as local exhibitions at the Brighton Museum, for example 'Fashion of Africa'.

At the age of 12 I wanted to create my own business. Inspired by Henry Holland's T-shirt designs, I made stencils and spray-painted designs onto tees. I then moved on to printing onto T-shirts, I sold these to friends and family, but my interests soon moved on to upcycling clothes and garment construction.

On the foundation course I have learnt how to generate ideas in different ways, whether that be through objects I look at every day or through a certain colour scheme. I have adapted to be able to respond quickly to briefs and short projects, proving that I work efficiently and with versatility. Additionally, it has allowed me to embrace my independent work ethic and stay open-minded.

Taking part in multiple fashion projects and a summer school with the University of Brighton involved collaboration, this helped with idea generation and working as a team to create fashion shows and garments. I was constantly engaged with the industry and reminded of how passionate I am about working with clothing. As a result, I am inspired to go to university, to develop my skillset to another level which will push my creative abilities, concepts and career to industry standard.

## PS Fashion

Fashion can be beautiful, classic, and modern renaissance. Fashion can be terrifying, angry and vengeful as shown when Alexander McQueen sent his models down a muddied runway in his infamous A/W '95 show, garments ripped, skin exposed. Fashion is understood, lost in confusion, minimal and maximal, eternal and ever changing. An existential crisis in a material business.

In 2018, I attended a short 16-18 fashion journalism course at London College of Fashion. Over three days, I learnt so much about fashion journalism and the publishing industry through the course leader, an established journalist. We submitted work I really enjoyed writing, and this incredible experience not only gave me an inside perspective on the industry, but also living in London as I stayed there for the course.

At college, I study English Literature and Language, having enjoyed writing my entire life. Discovering I could incorporate this skill into the fashion industry was empowering. I became incredibly interested in journalism and write articles on anything I feel strongly about in my free time. Studying A-level taught me important techniques, helping me develop and improve, explore the editing process to develop a final piece.

Through religiously reading fashion magazines from aged 12, I discovered Photography. I found a talent for photography through postings to social media, receiving encouraging feedback. I feel social media is an excellent way to present your work in everyday life, regardless of following or influence. From taking images to editing, to looking into others photographers work and analysing their images, I have really enjoyed studying Photography.

I also began an AS level course in Graphics in my second year of college after deciding to drop Philosophy. I felt Graphics was more suited to the work I wanted to do, and closer to the fashion industry.

Outside college, I love visiting London exhibitions, from smaller independents to notable designers such as Azzedine Alaïa and Alexander McQueen. I am interested in the history of art, both classic and modern. I particularly appreciate Caravaggio, Rubens and Gauguin, alongside the upcoming Tristan Piggott, whose work studies modern society. I am keen to explore print magazines and publishing, and find inspiration in many different types of fashion magazines from classic editorial 'Vogue', to more independent and experimental magazines like 'I:D' or 'AnOther'. I also am keen to see how publishing is manifesting into the digital age, as online content presents such a crucial change to the industry.

Travel has been notably influential in my interest in fashion. Buzzing fashion capitals like Paris and New York have given me incredible insight into the way fashion is marketed, received and has influence in different cities, be it the sleek minimalism of the classic Parisian style or vibrancy and versatility of New York.

I have helped style, artistically direct and photograph sponsored brand photo shoots involving a social media influencer. This gave me experience in working with models to promote brands, and in using social media as a marketing tool. Working at a PR press night, I took statements from visitors and aided in promoting the event online. I have worked in retail at Dune in Gatwick airport where I experienced the busy, fast-paced industry first-hand.

In my personal life I have gained much experience and matured incredibly well, which I feel is crucial when embarking on university life and beginning a journey into the fashion industry. I pride myself in being an exceptionally independent individual, incredibly friendly and sociable, able to work with others. I am exceedingly passionate and undertake everything with utmost drive and commitment.

I have never felt I belonged somewhere as much as I have when studying great designers, writing and reading words that pull together glossy pages of a magazine. I aspire to succeed in this industry in the future.



## PS Fashion

Our style immediately conveys to others how we want to be perceived. It is an instant form of non-verbal communication, enabling us to make a statement before we open our mouths. We all have the ability to wear a piece of clothing in a unique way and adapt it to our own look. Two people could take the same item of clothing but appear completely different just by the way they incorporate it into their own style. I have such interest in how fashion displays a message to others, and how the fashion industry is constantly growing and changing with new styles and trends.

In my spare time I enjoy reading various fashion articles across all forms of media, keeping me up to date on latest trends. I feel it has broadened my knowledge about fashion journalism and enlightened me how the industry uses a variety of techniques to capture their readers' interests. Whilst reading the articles, the concept of fashion sustainability grabbed my attention. I learnt Fashion accounts for 10% of the world's greenhouse gas and 20% of wastewater. This led me to realise as a consumer buying from big brands I am contributing to the problem. So, in 2017 I opened a Depop shop and started selling my old clothes and buying second hand from the site. I now buy all my clothes from Depop or sustainable fashion brands. I feel my experience is useful whilst learning how the fashion industry is working to tackle the problem. I am an avid watcher of YouTube videos from many fashion bloggers. This has enabled me to truly see the dynamic nature of the industry and enhanced my love for the world of fashion. I scroll through Pinterest and Instagram posts making boards of outfits, alongside visiting galleries such as Christian Dior: Designer Of Dreams and Mary Quant exhibitions, which inspired me to recreate looks for myself and friends, who often seek my advice regarding their style!

All three of my A-levels were essay based, meaning I constantly had to evaluate and analyse my written work. This has enabled me to edit critically and strengthened my time management skills to meet deadlines and work under pressure. Studying linguistics throughout English Language gave me tools to pick out language features used in fashion articles. Psychology gave me an insight into how individuals adapt their style to fit in with a majority and how people interpret colours and images differently. Finally, Fine Art opened my eyes to many different art forms. My strengths were painting and drawing and throughout two years of studying, my techniques evolved and developed. My final project involved using my original sketches and paintings of growing and decaying flowers to create my own fabrics using screen-printing and heat presses, with the outcome being a dress. Graphic design and photography did not feature highly in my work so are not my strengths. Therefore, this is something that I would really like to explore further when studying on the foundation year to then move onto the Fashion communication (and promotion) course.

In August 2018 I completed a week of work experience at Jaba Yard, a boutique store. My duties included deciding which items would go out onto the shop floor, dealing with customer queries and I was able to put forward my design ideas for the Autumn/Winter 2018 range. I really enjoyed the experience and left with a good insight into the production behind a clothing line. I currently work part-time at a popular bar, a fast-paced, busy environment where I am constantly having to be attentive and observant. These are qualities I feel would benefit me when studying the course.

I believe I have a strong and creative imagination. I want to learn new skills and be challenged whilst doing so. By studying Fashion communication (and promotion) with a foundation year, I will achieve the skills and expertise that will provide me with the ability to make an impact and play a significant role in the future of the fashion industry.

## PS Fashion

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## PS Film

I am excited to further my knowledge of film and believe this course is the perfect way to embark on a career in the film industry. Growing up, film was a constant; I was introduced from a young age and has since become a big part of my life. I became fascinated by the visual impact of these films and how such powerful effects were created. My passion for film has continued and I have developed an interest in various genres and directors.

My interests are varied and range from old Hollywood to contemporary independents. I have particularly enjoyed Martin Scorsese classics like Taxi Driver and Raging Bull, as well as Sergio Leone's Once upon a time in the West. But the film that influenced me the most was The Deer Hunter directed by Michael Cimino which is a masterpiece. A heart-breaking story about young men fighting in the Vietnam war showing the before, during and aftermath of their experiences. The cinematography is breath-taking and the three-part narrative allows these actors time to grow and develop as characters. The raw emotions Robert De Niro portrays alone is astonishing. In the independent film genre, a company called A24 creates these mesmerising films that are so authentic. My favourite is Moonlight which is a coming of age story about a young African American man that focuses on three stages of his life. In searching for his identity he discovers his hidden desires, finding out who he truly is. It is an incredibly powerful film which deservedly won an Oscar for best picture.

My interest in visual media resulted in me choosing to do Graphic Design and Photography for A level. In Graphic Design I enjoyed working alongside other young creators and learnt how important and exciting it can be to collaborate, share ideas and learn from each other. I used a wide range of mediums from Photoshop to model making and I enjoyed experimenting and manipulating images in order to produce the best outcomes. In Photography I learnt some similar skills but was able to produce something visually very different. I was taught the practicalities of how to use a digital and film camera and I enjoyed experimenting with my images in the dark room exploring the different exposure outcomes. My choice of A levels, and the experience I have acquired, have given me a solid foundation that I hope to develop further through this course.

Outside education I enjoy socialising with friends and maintaining a healthy lifestyle through regular exercise. I enjoy sports such as running, football and skateboarding. I also love music and attending live events. I enjoy travel and spent time in Australia in early 2020 before returning home prematurely due to the pandemic. Traveling helped broaden my horizons, gain independence and gave me a sense of adventure and desire to travel more in the future.

Over the last two years I have also acquired work experience. In April 2017 I started to work at a holiday club that looked after and taught children different sports and activities such as swimming and art. This helped me grow and mature as a person as I learnt how to be more independent and confident, coming up with new and exciting ideas to entertain them. More recently I have worked as a labourer for a building company which specialises in extensions. I undertook all different stages of building a house; from groundwork and brick laying, to carpentry and painting. I really enjoyed it as I learnt about different trades and was taught a variety of different skills. I can see that some of these skills could be very useful for the operations side of the film industry.

My expectations for this course are that I will learn more, not just about the subject but about myself as I discover a new city, new people, and a new life. With this degree I would like to gain more knowledge and experience about this industry and hope to translate these newly acquired skills into a career. I truly believe that this goal is highly achievable through this course.

## PS Film

The endless versatility of film studies makes it an incredibly interesting subject. It's not only a study of a story, but is the study of the art and composition of each shot, the ideologies of filmmakers, the psychology of an audience, the history of film and more. The discussion over why filmmakers choose to tell stories in certain ways is one of many countless reasons I want to study film.

When I chose Film Studies A-level, I decided on it originally for my lifelong love of stories, both creating them and analysing them. Through taking the A-level course, my love for the subject has developed, and has improved my academic skills such as critical thinking. It has let me look at films with a new lens and invigorated my passion. I decided to join BhasvicTV at college to further my practice of media. We film reports about life at BHASVIC and edit and upload them to YouTube. This firstly allows me to be a team player as we work as a crew to fulfill a commission. Secondly it helps me be creative, especially within the instruction from a brief. It also furthers my practical skills in filmmaking and editing, and my love for both. In particular, I have discovered that I really enjoy the satisfaction of editing and is one of my favorite parts of the process.

One of my main passions is being a part of Girlguiding, which I have been for ten years now. I am part of my local Rangers unit and meet every other week. With the London and South East Region of Rangers, in 2017, I went to Ghana on an international volunteering trip, widening my outlook on the world. I also decided to further my involvement by volunteering every week at a local Rainbows unit. Being a leader helps with my leadership, teamwork and organisation, helping me toward being a filmmaker in the future. Girlguiding has also encouraged me to take part in other schemes such as Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award and National Citizen Service. With NCS, I had some incredible experiences such as helping at a retirement home which was truly inspiring. Duke of Edinburgh challenged me through its grueling expedition and pushed me further through allowing me to improve a skill and a sport. Dedication to these and my improved organisation make me ready and mature enough to thrive in university. I also have a part time job in retail at Next. This helps my people-skills as I have to deal with many different people with different problems. I'm constantly inspired at work, by the people I meet with interesting stories, to create my own stories.

Both my other A-Level subjects benefit me studying Film Studies in so many ways. Studying English Language and Literature has helped my language skills enormously, as well as my analysis. It also helps my understanding of the construction of stories, which would be very helpful in studying film. I have also used my coursework to further my study of film by writing an article on the lack of female representation of directors in the Oscars. This helped my understanding of the industry of film, a section of the subject I'm interested in studying at a degree level. English has also furthered my interest in scriptwriting through my creative writing coursework. In Drama and Theatre Studies devising drama and reinterpreting script allows me to be creative, fueling my passion to create stories. Furthermore, this gives me an understanding of the importance of performance in film as well as the importance of the script and subject material. Our symbolic and metaphorical choices made in performances help me to analyse similar choices in the mise-en-scene of a film. Furthermore, the history of theatre plays directly into the history of early filmmaking as early films were heavily inspired by the theatre.

I am very excited to study film at university both as a subject and the life lessons it will bring.

## PS Geog

I was always keen on geography, and exploring new places, even as a small child. I would often go on holiday to different countries and note how different they were to where I lived, both culturally and physically.

When I chose to study geography in GCSE and A-level, I mainly chose it due to the opportunities to take part in trips, but during A-level study I began to really enjoy the subject, and develop such a passionate interest. I started to think that this is what I want to further my knowledge, and study at university, especially the physical side of geography. I enjoyed the fact that geography seemed to be such a broad subject, with so many aspects to explore within each topic, it never becomes boring. There is always something within each topic to grab my interest, and make me begin to ask more questions, research more until I find a conclusion I am happy with.

I study communications and culture, and in this subject as part of the coursework I learnt valuable skills on how to create and present presentations. This I believe will help me a lot when studying geography, as I will be able to transfer the skills in order to if needed to create a presentation, this paired with psychology and sociology, both help me within my essay writing skills, as essays have played a vital role in all my four subjects throughout the two years, resulting in my writing skills constantly being challenged and improved.

In geography I have a keen interest in Geomorphology, for I especially like looking at the landforms of the earth and then exploring its characteristics, and why it has evolved like that, especially with regards to tectonic activity and how it shapes the landforms on the earth's surface today.

Recently I attended a geographical lecture at Brighton University about coastal hazards such as tsunamis, including impacts, such as on Fukushima. I enjoyed this immensely, learning facts through the lecture. The knowledge that I gained from this I was able to transfer into the tectonics section of the geography course, helping to further my knowledge and interests. As well as this I enjoy taking part in fieldwork whether it be locally such as Stanmer Park (Brighton) or further away, such as London or even Croatia, and comparing the results of sets of data into finding trends patterns and differences to further my knowledge of the course, and my geographical understanding of the world around me.

Outside college, I have taken part in the National Citizen Service where I worked as part of a team of 14 other young people to refurbish a youth centre. In doing this I learned to work efficiently in order to finish on time. I also learnt valuable communication skills when working in a group on how to present my ideas clearly to others, which in turn benefited my team working skills. My leadership skills were also tested and strengthened when refurbishing the youth centre for I would have to take charge on certain aspects and delegate roles to others. I can use this when studying geography in university, as I can then transfer my team working skills if I have to work on a presentation with others in the course.

## PS Geog

I have chosen to study a degree in Geography because of my love of the outdoors and desire to understand how our landscape was created and subsequently altered by both mankind and nature. I am fascinated by the interactions between different geographical processes and the impact this has on the world around me, and am excited about the opportunities this degree will give me to deepen my understanding of the topic.

My A-level studies have sparked a particular interest in long-term climate change, and inspired me to undertake further reading. One example of this is an article I read in the National Geographic magazine dedicated to the issue of global climate change. The article discussed how new technological developments could be used to reduce the speed and scale of the impact of climate change. By reading this article it lead me to want to study in more depth, which this degree would allow me to do, the technology and methods we use to detect and monitor climate change. Therefore gaining a greater insight into how the world's climate has changed over the last 500,000 years, and how this has impacted on ecosystems and climates globally.

During my second year of college I took part in various types of fieldwork. This included using a variety of equipment to collect data, and plotting this data onto a range of graphs and tables allowing me to conduct statistical tests. This practical aspect of these tasks further stimulated my interest in long term climate change. I am also able to apply skills gained from my other A level subjects to further my knowledge of geography, for example using the statistical test Mann Whitney U learnt in Biology to further analyse the relationship between two sets of data. Both Environmental Studies and Psychology AS allowed me to develop my research skills and apply data methodically and interpret a wide variety of experimental and experiential information.

Outside college I have been part of the Scout movement for seven years. I took part in a 100 mile hike along the Jurassic Coast, which taught me about team dynamics and perseverance, as well as providing the opportunity to observe some incredible geographic features such as the Old Harry sea stack, and the Durdle Door sea arch at Lulworth Cove.

Also as an Explorer Scout have undertaken a dam rebuilding project, and coppicing in local woodland (SSSI), gaining first-hand experience of environmental enhancement projects.

Furthermore, I was one of forty scouts selected to represent East Sussex at the 2015 World Scout Jamboree in Japan after undergoing a robust selection process which tested our leadership and team-working skills. In Japan I found it fascinating observing the environmental and geographical differences which have influenced human culture.

I have postponed my entry into university until 2017 to enable me to increase my independence and maturity. In my gap year I am hoping to undergo work experience and improve my communication skills by getting a full time job. Alongside this I am hoping to volunteer locally with the disabled children's charity Kangaroos. This would help me to gain a greater understanding of living with a disability prior to working with the organisation CampCanada on a summer camp with disabled children, as a Camp Counsellor, allowing the children to experience freedom which they may well not have at home. After working on the camp I plan to visit the Rocky Mountains in western Canada as the geology and geography of the mountains, and the landscapes that have created, have always fascinated me.

I have truly loved studying geography and am passionate about gaining a greater comprehension of the physical world we live in. Geography influences the entire planet; I believe we have a responsibility to understand it, and to try and change the world for the better. I am committed and ready for studying at a higher level and I believe I have the passion, skills and motivation to succeed.

## PS Geog

My fascination with geography is how far it reaches into our everyday lives. With the increasing threat of climate change and growing issues of migration and population control, I believe it has never had more relevance in the modern world. Through studying Geography at both GCSE and A Level, one of the most satisfying experiences is when a part of the syllabus links to current world affairs and enables me to make an informed view based on what I've learned. I have chosen to do a flexible geography degree because I am interested in all aspects of the subject, but also because it can lead to a wide variety of jobs. However, I would be most interested in pursuing it in its purest form, such as teaching at secondary.

Growing up, I was fortunate enough to travel around the world to a variety of countries and got instantly caught up in the colourful cultures of various places such as Vietnam, Tunisia and parts of Europe, heightening my interest in the different ways in which people interact and thrive. My passion for human geography was further ignited when I studied the Superpowers unit in year 2, which looked at the acquisition of power, and the ways in which countries become dominant global players. This had real significance for me because it helped me to understand the world in which we all live, and the forces that shape our everyday lives. Visiting Iceland, I was captivated by its natural beauty during a visit to Thingvellir National park where I walked between the North American and Eurasian plates at Almannagja Gorge, and climbed one of the largest glaciers in Europe. I was also impressed by the abundance of geysers, waterfalls and volcanic beaches everywhere we visited. Seeing such natural phenomenon with my own eyes really cemented my interest in physical geography.

I understand that it takes commitment and dedication to study a geography degree. My other A Level subjects have helped me immensely in improving my skills as a geography student. English Language and Literature has given me transferable skills such as essay writing and communication while Psychology has challenged me in terms of critical thinking, analysis and independent study.

In my spare time, I volunteer in a local Oxfam shop, working the till and physically sorting through the donations. As well as having improved my self-confidence, this has developed my organisational and time management skills, and increased my sense of social responsibility. I enjoy all forms of art, including watercolour painting, sketching landscapes and human portraits, and am an avid reader. I am also a keen walker, exploring the local area on a daily basis and going on regular walking holidays with my family in the Peak District, Lake District and the West Country.

I am applying after the deadline because I was originally planning to take a gap year, working and travelling. However, due to the coronavirus epidemic, I no longer believe this will be possible and have decided instead to start university in September.

## PS Geog Econ

In an ever changing and developing world, the study of Geography, Economics and related subjects is increasingly important. With the recent Global pandemic caused by COVID-19, people, places and economies are having to adapt to the rapidly changing situation. I originally planned to go travelling through south east Asia on a gap year to further develop my skills as a person, but also my knowledge on different cultures and the varying levels of development there are in the world currently. I am now seeking to further my academic development by studying subjects that allow me to develop my understanding of social and economic factors of humanity, and how they may affect development now and in the near future.

I am currently studying mathematics, geography and environmental science at A level. These three subjects allow me to explore different aspects of learning and assessment from exams to independent studies. Studying these subjects has taught me how to be time efficient and how to work hard towards my goals due to their heavy workloads. I believe studying Mathematics at A level has helped me to understand the finer points and intricacies behind Economics, also allowing me to better understand equations and theories in Economics and Geography. Geography has introduced me into specific areas of study that I am really interested in such as globalization, and international development. Also, the independent study (NEA) in my geography course has taught me how to investigate and create a research project on topics I am interested in. I believe that this part of the course has allowed me to work independently and concisely. Studying Environmental Science has increased my awareness on the vast environmental issues that we are faced with, and how important they are to development.

To extend and better my knowledge on the subjects I'm currently studying, and hope to study in the near future, I have been using resources such as books and extra-curricular sources. I have been reading the book 'Prisoners of Geography' to help with my geography course and as I'm very interested in the content within the book. Furthermore, with my interest in studying economics I have recently subscribed to 'The Economist' journal to help me to build my base understanding of the subject. I am also currently enrolled in a supplementary online MOOC economics course to make my time in the current lockdown beneficial, and to make sure I am prepared for the up and coming study.

After higher level education I would love to work for an NGO to help those less fortunate than myself however, working for an IGO such as the United Nations helping with development across the world is my main goal.

Outside academic studies, I have a part time job as a customer assistant at Marks & Spencer. Having a job has allowed me to become more financially independent giving me experience in working life. It has also taught me how to balance aspects of my life such as work, study and my social life. Furthermore, being a customer assistant has also helped me build my key social skills due to the interactive nature of the job. I enjoy my role as I take pride in being able to assist people and make their lives easier. Sport and fitness are also big passions of mine. Previously, I played football and competed in athletics at a county level. These have allowed me to thrive not just in team work but also individually, building my resilient mindset that I possess today. Although I do not compete at these levels anymore, I am keen to stay fit and healthy by going to the gym regularly, which has also helped me to balance studying for A levels and physical activity well.

I believe that I am a hard-working student with a drive to succeed and a genuine interest in the subjects I have applied for. I would offer commitment and dedication to the subject I study and would relish the chance to study my passions at a higher level.



## PS Geog

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## PS Geog

The way in which the physical world has evolved has always been a passion of mine. From visiting the French Alps to the Dalmatian Coast in Croatia, my admiration of the geological makeup of the world has always led me to question how these landforms were created and how the physical geography of the world will take shape in the future. This is something that I would love to study at a higher level.

My A level choices have helped to broaden my understanding of the way the earth's systems interact both biologically and chemically. Studying the carbon cycle in both biology and geography gave me insight into how humans can directly alter the physical appearance of the earth. My studies of the nine planetary boundaries taught me how fragile the environment is under the influence of a rapidly growing population and the increasing affluence of urbanised areas. Research into the water cycle has given me an understanding of how the geology of the earth can have a direct impact on hydrological cycles and the livelihood of communities around the world. Taking mathematics at A Level has developed my skill in analysing graphs and making links between data, thereby increasing my understanding of technical theories in biology and providing a greater understanding of key physical processes which the earth has undergone over time.

Part of my geography A level trip included a trip to Zadar, Croatia, where we analysed the physical processes occurring in the area and explored the geological features which created the unique topography of the area. I was particularly intrigued by how rising sea levels lead to the series of elongated islands in the area and a drowned river valley, which we canoed down. During my second year of College, I completed a geology portfolio course in which I examined key geological events occurring during each period, focusing on distinctive features associated with these periods. This provided an introduction to the historical physical processes which have occurred throughout time and is something which I am extremely keen to expand my knowledge on.

From a young age I have collected many encyclopaedias of the earth due to my fascination with volcanology and geology. Through reading, I have gained a particular interest in orology, which led me to visit Chamonix in the French Alps after my GCSEs. On this trip I observed that a large portion of ice on a col on the France Italy border was pink, which I later discovered was due to the presence of algae, causing many environmental concerns as it speeds up the rate of snow melting. The trip intensified my admiration for these mountainous landscapes and further developed my awareness of the importance of maintaining our physical environment. I aim to embark upon a career which focuses on protecting these landscapes in a sustainable manner under the influence of the ever-changing climate.

At home I love to compose my own electronic music using Ableton and play some well-known classical tunes on the piano. I am also a keen sportsman, regularly mountain biking on the South Downs Way, alongside playing tennis at my local club. Throughout secondary school I was part of the school cross country running and football teams, the highlight being a football trip to The Netherlands in which my school won a tournament. These experiences have taught me to work well under pressure and effectively within a team.

To conclude, I am very passionate about geology and the processes and patterns within our natural environment, and I look forward to gaining a greater understanding of the formation of physical landscapes and how they have evolved over time. Following a University degree I aspire to have a career which helps to mitigate the impact of climate change on the environment, as I believe that this is the biggest challenge facing us today.

## PS Geog

All areas of geography fascinate me, though the human aspect has really captivated my interest. I am specifically drawn to the topics of sustainable development, cultural erosion as a result of globalisation, and the multi-dimensional consequences of climate change. I am passionate about pursuing a meaningful career which forms part of the solution in tackling some of these global issues.

Studying Geography at A Level involved research, numerous presentations and individual tasks including my own project on sustainable urban regeneration. I studied the extent of success of the recent controversial regeneration of the Brighton i360 and the surrounding area. My NEA allowed me to critically decipher texts and articles, consolidate and present data, and use GIS to map relevant areas. I strongly believe, and my findings consolidated, that sustainable urban regeneration is one of the most pressing issues of our time, specifically in Brighton where significant geological buffers surround the city which limit outward projects. I enjoyed the first-hand experience and in-depth research that came alongside my fieldwork and independent studies. This experience of project work developed strong organisational and interpersonal skills which will be beneficial in my geography degree studies.

An integral aspect of my English A level was group work, where exchanging valuable ideas and opinions and, challenging where needed, enabled me to become a confident communicator and public speaker, with the ability to lead a group discussion. While writing my coursework essay, critical-thinking and text analysis skills were also fundamental in forming a balanced opinion.

During my textiles projects, I used fabric off-scraps and second-hand materials to reflect my concern over waste created by the fashion industry as a leading global pollutant. I am particularly concerned by the rise in disposable, single-use masks and their impact on marine environments, furthering the global ocean pollution problem. During lockdown, I provided a sustainable solution to this issue at a local level by designing, creating and making my own range of reusable masks which were used within the community, including at a local GP practice.

Alongside academic studies, I have actively been involved in extra-curricular activities. Demonstrating my ability to lead and inspire, I was elected as a prefect and played an active role in the running of school open days and events. I have been to dance lessons for over 12 years, completing examinations in Ballet to a high standard. Dance has taught me many qualities that are applicable to university such as dedication and the importance of discipline. During my first year at college, I worked between 10-20 hours per week at a local hotel in the housekeeping department. With sole responsibility for ensuring approximately 13 rooms were spotless and ready for guest check in, I learnt to work at pace and to high standards under pressure.

Committed to continuous life-long learning, I have been a keen reader of "Geographical" and "National Geographic" for many years and I am currently studying an online course titled 'tackling environmental challenges for a sustainable future.' During my gap year I hope to complete a work experience opportunity in Barbados assisting in a sustainability project. This choice to embark on a gap year allows me to gain further valuable employment and life experience which will develop greater levels of independence and will help me settle in quickly into university.

Studying geography at an undergraduate level has been my aim since GCSE. Achieving an A grade in Geography at A level has given me the confidence to fulfil this ambition and I am exceptionally excited about the opportunity to deepen my knowledge and work towards a career in this interdisciplinary field.

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## PS History

Interrogating differing perspectives to completely transform the interpretation of a historical event is the key part of a historian's job that fascinates me. Putting these together to determine the most objective approach has never been more relevant in understanding contemporary issues, conflict and crises and has compelled me to take my studies further.

I was fortunate to visit Berlin last year and inspired by the rich history of the city. At the epicentre of the Cold War, it was somewhat surreal to examine the remains of the Berlin wall - one of the only physical barriers in two ideological spheres.

The study of the Cold War for my A Level course work, really sparked my deep interest, not only in terms of causes and effects, but also how we study history. I found La Feber's argument in 'America, Russia and the Cold War' by far the most convincing: the idea that aggressive and self-serving American foreign policy left the Kremlin no choice but to act. As I researched further, it struck me no history can ever be completely correct as the book's publication in 1967 coincided with deeply unpopular opinions of American Foreign policy due to the Vietnam war. This propelled me to research 'Actor Centred' History, so that I could start to look at history as an accumulation of individual actors under social, economic and political conditions of a given period. I found this particularly fascinating as Toqueville suggests a regime can only transform into a democracy if systems of government also support this. To understand this one only has to look at the Russian revolution. Yes, ideological pillars of government had dramatically changed but repressive and highly autocratic systems still remained in place.

Last year we studied the changing nature of British political parties and how the enfranchisement of the population forced parties to adapt by designing highly organised and centralised campaigns that for the first time needed to appeal to a diverse electorate. This has been vital to my understanding of the current, somewhat chaotic political environment and evolution of social media as propaganda, particularly evident in the Brexit Campaign. Extinction rebellion has used the Suffragette Movement to develop their campaign strategy: putting liberty on the line by risking arrest, highlighting how deeply fundamental the role of history is within our current society. After A levels, I took a gap year which I hope will mean I arrive at university with a broader perspective and experience to contribute to discussion and thinking on the course. This year I'm working as a domiciliary care worker. This experience, so far, has been invaluable, allowing me to help vulnerable people within our community, dealing with emotionally challenging situations calmly and objectively, in order to provide the highest standard of care. As an active member of my college's Femsoc Group, I was able to hone my debating skills formulating concise and well-informed opinions. I found it particularly interesting debating intersectional feminism and period poverty, both subjects which many are not adequately informed. I relish in debate and discussion from all parts of the globe but my A\* grade was gained by a particular interest in 20<sup>th</sup> century Russian and Chinese history. Studying maths and chemistry helped me develop a methodical and analytical way of working which I can apply to both quantitative and qualitative analysis. This year I also plan to spend time in Eastern Europe, enabling me to see the reality countries are still affected by fallen communist regimes. I am hoping that the combination of my academic A levels and further study of history will enable me to start a successful career in either an NGO or consultancy. I am planning to be an active member of the social welfare teams supporting other students at the university. My enthusiasm, capacity for hard-work and drive, I hope will make me a valuable member of the university community.

## PS History

The inextricable links of the past and present make history so exciting and unique as a subject. It intrigues me that due to worldwide industrial revolution we are now faced with global warming. That the Balfour Declaration eventually sparked the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that still continues 100 years on. I believe that learning how our modern day society was sculpted gives us the tools on how to further build and address the pressing issues in our world today.

Our current political climate is one of 'post truth'. Where Manipulated histories have been used to reignite right wing and nationalist movements and idealise the past for political propaganda. For example, the Brexit campaign used the conceptualisation of 'Britishness' to accentuate a perceived loss of historic power and freedom under the EU. This has furthered my thirst to research how nationalist sentiment has been used as poisonous propaganda throughout history and how to learn from these examples today.

History, Art and Mathematics, display my need for a varied skill set and challenge. In History and Art there's rarely one definitive answer every fact breeds infinite perspectives and captivating stories. However, by applying the logical approach and rigorous analysis I learned in Maths I can find an arguable truth, supported by a balance of fact and opinion. For me, this makes historical writings and museums not just the unfathomable traces of human existence, but a narrative to make sense of it.

My love for art has furthered my love for history. Art has the power to make history and amplify its remembrance and relevance. I analysed an abstract propaganda poster by El Lizzitsky on the 1918 Russian civil war named "Beat the whites with the red wedge", using my knowledge of the Bolshevik revolution from Orlando Figes "Revolutionary Russia". El Lizzitsky's creative documentation of history inspired me to take an extra course of historiography to investigate if history should be considered an art or science– something I hope to further explore in my higher education. Anything else you learned in historiography?

My non-academic life has always been focused around people. As a waitress in a café, I get to enjoy the stories and debates of many different individuals, which I believe has grown my confidence in public speaking. Furthermore, my performances as vocalist for Brighton Youth orchestra and as a singer songwriter has helped me to feel comfortable debating or presenting in front of a group. In addition, my work experience at an advertising agency proved me to be an apt communicator and team player; I intend to boost these qualities by volunteering with children Laos in April 2018.

Due to my fascination from my A level syllabus I attended many historical sites of importance on my travels throughout Europe in 2017. Example? Seeing places I'd studied first hand confirmed and piqued my interest in studying History at a higher level. After studying the rise and fall of East Germany, my visit to the Berlin wall became a far deeper experience. Being able to simply walk across this border when so many people had been persecuted and killed in the past was truly moving..

I look forward to discussing and learning history with experts and peers alike. I also relish the opportunity to hone my writing and debating skills to untangle the wisdom found in past generations of civilisation.

## PS History

"The future is no more uncertain than the present." - Walt Whitman. This is one of my favourite quotes from the poem, 'Song of the Broad Axe' from a particular section of the poem which glorifies the actions of men. However, it also shifts one's perspective from the material to the spiritual and what makes a great city, not the city with the greatest commodities but the most decent people. This poem has always stuck with me as it set out how a person can be part of a great society through simply being a good person. This lead me to think about our great cities hosting our greatest minds which inspires me to study history. What makes something great? What is a legacy? How does a conflict so impactful it engulfs the world begin? How does a tiny island in the North Sea become the controller of a third of the worlds land mass? And who are the great men and woman that lead revolutions, reforms, radical movements and armies into greatness and victory? This is what interests me and what drives me to read, listen and write. This is what I want to study and understand in my life. My passion, fascination and enthusiasm revolves around this.

However, while my prime interest has always been with History, this has evolved as my mind has been opened to new experiences and my interests stemmed broadened into a fascination with politics, and relationships between governments. The constant stream of new crisis and issues, and my curiosity to understand them and their origins have been intriguing. My first instance of this was the Israeli-Palestine conflict. Hearing about these issues when I was younger triggered me to read into the conflict and its origins, with such titles as the Palestine-Israeli conflict by Dan Cohn-Sherbok, and now I'm researching it in my EPQ, creating my own theories and my own opinions about the controversy around the conflict.

Studying my Extended Project has given me a positive introduction to research skills and documentary evidence needed to study at a higher level. Studying Psychology has further enhanced my ability to interpret data methodically and apply it to situations and theories.

I've never been afraid of responsibility; I've always faced it head on. This is why I ran for student council and why I'm confident with my role in the college. By being such an active participant I have been given the opportunity to organise successful events and become a prominent member of the safeguarding team as a voice for the students. This has always been a highly important issue for me, and from a young age I've shown active participation for student council activities, eventually becoming head boy at my previous school, moving up to the much larger BHASVIC to become a student council and class representative. I endeavour to create and improve things to help my fellow peers with issues that arise either socially, academically or even with the structure of the college systems itself. My experience undertaking working relationships with different types of people is developing every day to achieve our goals.

With my literature collection ranging from Beat Generation classics such as Jack Kerouac's 'On the Road', to classic novels and plays such as Arthur Millers 'All my Sons' and Aldous Huxley's 'Brave New World', to modern contemporary literature such as Margaret Atwood's "Madd Adam" trilogy and Phillip Pullmans "His Dark Materials" trilogy, I enjoy reading for pleasure and around my subjects. Along with my natural interest in the past I've always had interest in the fictional, and how words can shift your outlook on life and can turn with every plot twist. In addition to my love for books I've recently been drawn towards the world of photography, mainly film photography but digital as well. This has helped me gain patience and understanding of the creative process.

## PS History

The chance to develop new knowledge and debate all the different interpretations of it is something that is continually exciting about history for me. The nature of past events influencing today's societies I think is vital to debate and understand- driving my ambition to continue studying history at university. I really began to appreciate the complexity of often vehemently opposing views in historical debate writing my EPQ on whether or not the UK should pay reparations for colonialism, researching and arguing on both sides with friends and family. I was profoundly interested by Shashi Tharoor's 'An Era of Darkness' which, through his scathing analysis of the British empire's economic destruction and its disastrous impacts on Muslim-Hindu relations, demonstrated how vital it is to understand past actions so that we may rectify wrong doings today, inspiring in me much interest in historical debate. Frustrating lack of debate has meant Boris Johnson is now being pressured to cut the foreign aid budget, potentially worsening poverty and suffering, showing just how important it is that we properly research and understand more than just a single perspective on a topic, and why a history degree is important.

Studying the English civil war, I compromised between the very antithetical views of Christopher Hill's functionalist take focussing on the long term effects of the rise of the gentry with that of others like Conrad Russell, whose intentionalist viewpoint emphasises the importance of Charles and his desire to reform England into an absolutist monarchy. Rationalising these as well as other religious viewpoints from John Morrill, opposing economic arguments from Lawrence Stone and Hugh Trevor-Roper into a comprehensive conclusion was very important for me. To develop a well-reasoned compromise between many viewpoints I went outside the lessons, participating in a debating society at college as well as seeing in first person lectures from figures such as David Starkey to equip me with the communication skills to formulate original conclusions to these complicated arguments. Through this and my verbal presentation in EPQ I have the skills to persuade others to my point of view, whilst making sure that my own views are comprehensive and justifiable.

After getting, and being unsatisfied, with results I received in August I've taken a gap year to retake physics during which time I have refocussed time into my work and hobbies driven by a desire to continue studying history at a higher level. I enjoy camping and used my time to interrail and camp around Europe's most historic cities such as Milan which has an exquisite combination of historic buildings such as the Santa Maria delle Grazie and contemporary architecture. This trip enhanced my independence and organisational skills, inspiring me to maintain historical reading during my gap year- fuelling my independent study while exemplifying my organisation and passion I want to put into the course. While studying I often looked for more sources such as Thomas Asbridge who cautions against misunderstanding and misappropriation of the past citing Bush calling for a crusade creating religious propaganda and endangering lives- the power of a historical word fascinated and encouraged me to read a plethora of other books, giving me a broad knowledge base and interest in many aspects of history. Additionally, I enjoyed volunteering on an archaeological dig of a Roman village to gain practical experience of first hand research making me well equipped to scrutinise sources to ascertain their value.

My EPQ and gap year have helped me to enjoy and excel at independent research, competent time management and given me the drive to overcome the challenges that studying history at university may bring. I'm eager and ready to work hard, utilise these traits to pursue history next year and hopefully go on to study for a Master's degree.

## PS History

The inextricable links of the past and present make history so exciting and unique as a subject. It intrigues me that due to worldwide industrial revolution we are now faced with global warming. That the Balfour Declaration eventually sparked the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that still continues 100 years on. I believe that learning how our modern day society was sculpted gives us the tools on how to further build and address the pressing issues in our world today.

Our current political climate is one of 'post truth'. Where manipulated histories have been used to reignite right wing and nationalist movements and idealise the past for political propaganda. For example, the Brexit campaign used the conceptualisation of 'Britishness' to accentuate a perceived loss of historic power and freedom under the EU. This has furthered my thirst to research how nationalist sentiment has been used as poisonous propaganda throughout history and how to learn from these examples today.

History, Art and Mathematics, display my need for a varied skill set and challenge. In History and Art there's rarely one definitive answer every fact breeds infinite perspectives and captivating stories. However, by applying the logical approach and rigorous analysis I learned in Maths I can find an arguable truth, supported by a balance of fact and opinion. For me, this makes historical writings and museums not just the unfathomable traces of human existence, but a narrative to make sense of it.

My love for art has furthered my love for history. Art has the power to make history and amplify its remembrance and relevance. I analysed an abstract propaganda poster by El Lizzitsky on the 1918 Russian civil war named "Beat the whites with the red wedge", using my knowledge of the Bolshevik revolution from Orlando Figes "Revolutionary Russia". El Lizzitsky's creative documentation of history inspired me to take an extra course of historiography to investigate if history should be considered an art or science– something I hope to further explore in my higher education. Anything else you learned in historiography?

My non-academic life has always been focused around people. As a waitress in a café, I get to enjoy the stories and debates of many different individuals, which I believe has grown my confidence in public speaking. Furthermore, my performances as vocalist for Brighton Youth orchestra and as a singer songwriter has helped me to feel comfortable debating or presenting in front of a group. In addition, my work experience at an advertising agency proved me to be an apt communicator and team player; I intend to boost these qualities by volunteering with children Laos in April 2018.

Due to my fascination from my A level syllabus I attended many historical sites of importance on my travels throughout Europe in 2017. Example? Seeing places I'd studied first hand confirmed and piqued my interest in studying History at a higher level. After studying the rise and fall of East Germany, my visit to the Berlin wall became a far deeper experience. Being able to simply walk across this border when so many people had been persecuted and killed in the past was truly moving..

I look forward to discussing and learning history with experts and peers alike. I also relish the opportunity to hone my writing and debating skills to untangle the wisdom found in past generations of civilisation.



## PS History

I was brought up in a family where I was encouraged to express and develop my own views and opinions and to act upon them. I have found the study of history and economics a place where I can easily practise this. My perspective of history is best summed up by the words of F.W. Maitland, "we should always be aware that what now lies in the past once lay in the future."

History is everything. It's the way we behave today, because of the lessons we learnt yesterday. Empires and economies have crumbled and, with hindsight, we are able to understand and debate the causal effects. Having learnt to always look at both sides of an argument, I have a particular interest in conspiracy theories that challenge popular belief; for example, Donald Trump and his views on the origins of COVID 19.

Visiting Cape Town in 2015 I was truly inspired by a tour of Robben Island. It opened my eyes to historical events the way words on a page can't do. Our tour guide, (an ex prisoner) and the speech he gave us changed my outlook on history forever. He said "see what's achievable, never think anything can't be reached". The story of Nelson Mandela is that of racial injustice, political success and social change; all historical lessons. I find watching documentaries and reading books on history fascinating, in particular on the topic of war. Reading *Armageddon: The Battle for Germany, 1944-1945* by Max Hastings I find how he challenges popular opinion and misconception intriguing. My History A-level included coursework which was an essay on the Cold War's origins. This taught me critical skills which stand me in good stead for similar style essays at university.

History and economics are intertwined in every way possible. Every act in history has an economic cause or result, and it is the form this can take which fascinates me. Studying macroeconomic policy and how it differs at contrasting points on the economic curve and the subsequent effect it has on businesses, will help me understand the working world far better.

From studying A-level Economics, I have developed strong analytical skills examining why something was said or done at a specific time and the effect it had. For example, looking at economic policy such as Margaret Thatcher's decision to privatise industry, or Germany's strategy to advance through Belgium in 1918. Economics intrigues me as I find the trickle-down effect of an economic policy extremely interesting. Having worked for small businesses and then completing work experience in a global marketplace, it is fascinating to see how micro economic policy affects different sized companies differently, and their actions as a result of this.

Outside of my studies, I am a keen sportsman and play a lot of football and cricket. Last year, I was offered a trial at professional football club Colchester United, and have played representative level football for the majority of my career. I now play for a semi-pro men's side, and would be keen to carry this on at university. I coached children football for nearly two years, and eight months of this was voluntary. I completed my Level 1 coaching badge during this time, and this job has given me excellent organisational skills, as well as building up my leadership and management skills. Currently, I work twenty six hours a week as a receptionist at a gym, meaning I must be a good verbal and written communicator, as well as learning to improve my problem solving skills. I anticipate these skills will be key to be successful at university and look forward, and ready to oth the challenges and rewards this will bring.

## PS History

It is the almost constant reinterpretation of history that can be analysed through a multiplicity of lenses with the exhilaration of understanding how societies function through a political perspective that fascinates me.

Throughout the A-level course, I became especially interested in the political upheavals of nineteenth century Britain that were instrumental in the evolution of the modern democracy. To enhance my understanding of enfranchisement in Britain, I read *The Vote* by Paul Foot. In his examination of the Great Reform Act of 1832, Foot suggests that the bill provided a fragment of political power, 'appropriated' from the land-owning classes, and a newfound hope for those who yielded nothing from pressing the reform agenda. To me, whilst the act undoubtedly contained many abuses of the unreformed system, the bill marked a more decisive moment in the path to democracy than Foot lets on, as a precedent had been set which illustrated that popular pressure could lead to parliamentary reform- a view that is illuminated in the BBC's *In Our Time* podcast. I question the democratic nature of the process by which enfranchisement unravelled in Britain, not least because the architects of parliamentary reform were possibly seeking to strengthen the system in which there was an aristocratic dominance of parliamentary representation. I enjoy considering the patterns of change and continuity, which history enables me to do. Hostility to the vote can be traceable through a historical context with the principle of democratic government being loathed by many leaders of sixth century Athens as it was believed to have given too much power to the ill-educated lower classes. Indeed, Plato embodied this idea, proclaiming the system to be a 'rule of the mob'; although, his argument seemed to apply only to the direct democracy of his time. The many intricacies of democratic theory and its conflict with totalitarian systems of governance, in particular, is something I would like to further explore in my degree.

I am captivated by the events that have shaped the societies and political landscapes of today, especially in regard to the pursuit of equality. Co-president of a society in college that was dedicated to celebrating cultural diversity, we had high-level discussions into the challenges faced by various intersections of societies. Researching and leading sessions such as 'police brutality in the US' sparked a keen interest in the rich, yet inextricably complex, cultural and political history of African-American people. Despite the watershed moments in the Civil Rights Movement, I would argue that racially charged sentiment exists in more socially acceptable guises within political spheres. The absurd notions of biological inferiority have transformed into behavioural stereotyping and has had an enormous bearing on legislation and policy attitudes. A historiography on the past political experience of African-American people would serve to explain the current political climate. In my own Cold War historiography, I enjoyed comparing the historians' views, focussing on understanding the nature and purpose of their work, and I look forward to developing my analytical skills at a higher level on the political experience of African-American people. But how do you empirically quantify how something as abstract as racism affects the creation of policy? The study of the relationship between race and politics and its interconnections with perception, which factors into the shaping of policy, is something this degree would afford me.

Music, being a huge part of my life, allows me to consider history from different vantage points and is telling of the cultural circumstances of a composer's life. Playing the symphonies of Shostakovich in the JRAM Symphony Orchestra and in BYO has allowed me to understand the constraints of the soviet regime in new ways and I'm excited to view history from new and fresh perspectives.

## Eng Lang & Lit

Despite the universality of language, a common factor that connects us all, we still use it to separate ourselves from a group as an individual, with our own values and identity. It is this performance that we play to ourselves, and those around us, that makes linguistics so appealing to me. I am keen to study language and linguistics to gain a deeper understanding of how the language of others can shape our personality, especially in the case of children learning language.

After studying English language at A-Level I have been left with an eagerness to continue that study at degree level. I have learnt how to analyse discourse, how to sustain a line of enquiry and how to present an opinion while maintaining a descriptivist style and despite this, I have still been left with questions. Specifically, the study of a child's early adoption of language interests me as the incredible speed and precision with which they obtain language is fascinating. After watching Michael Rosen's "Accents Will Happen" documentary I was shocked to see the impact accent has on children learning language. The impact of phonetics being standard in classrooms varies dramatically depending on which regional accent you have. Many children are potentially disadvantaged due to this flawed and rigid system, and it is just one interesting part of this diverse topic. Child language acquisition is also closely linked with another of my subjects at A-Level, Psychology, which has given me insight into the wider effects of language learning on socialisation. Alongside English and Psychology, I studied History. Although thematically different, Modern History A-level has taught me many things like research skills and analytical writing which I have used to analyse the speeches of powerful men from around the world as part of my A-Level coursework.

Outside of college, I have worked as a lifeguard, where my diligence and responsibility have been heavily relied upon to prevent harm from coming to colleagues and customers. Having a high-stress job has given me the opportunity to complete important tasks within a deadline and taught me the importance of teamwork, qualities that will become useful as a university student as I will need to adhere to deadlines and work in a group environment. I have also learnt leadership and training skills as I have been required to train new staff members on multiple occasions. This will become useful as a second or third-year student when new students may rely on me for help. Most importantly this job taught me commitment, which I intend to bring to my studies at university.

After university, I plan to become an English as a foreign language teacher as I believe that the more global communication that takes place, the closer we can come to a global community, one that ignores divisions of creed and culture and focuses on the betterment of human society. Language is a necessary part of all science and all politics. The current coronavirus pandemic shows the importance of global communication and cooperation as we race to find a solution, this is facilitated by language and understanding of different cultures.

The versatility of language is incredible, it can be used as a tool, it can be used as a weapon or it can be used to bring joy to others. It creates and destroys and it never stays the same. Language is alive and that is what interests me so much. If given the opportunity I would love to study English and make a difference with it.

## PS Law

I discovered my interest for Law when I started studying it at A Level at BHASVIC and I want to carry on studying it at a university level. I particularly enjoyed studying about non-fatal offences and the general defences as those topics had the most interesting cases.

In my Law lessons we often have discussions on the topics we study, which has helped me develop my critical thinking, evaluation skills, and it helped me gain confidence in public speaking. I also study Economics at A level which helped me look at Law from a different perspective and it showed me a side of law that we haven't learned about in my law class – example???. Writing economic essays also helped me to structure my arguments and to support them with an example, which is very useful for writing evaluation essays in Law. As well as that, I study Psychology AS which is very helpful as many of the topics overlap with some areas I study in Law, for example insanity and automatism. Psychology helps me understand why people act in a certain way which makes my application of Law questions much easier and it is also very helpful when establishing mens rea. I also study Journalism as my portfolio subject and in that lesson I learn to develop my writing skills by writing articles and I combine that with developing my law skills by writing articles on law related topics, for example I have written an article on whether death penalty should be reintroduced.

I have shown my interest to law by visiting the Supreme Court on a college trip what did you learn?? and by undertaking research in journalism on topics that I write about examples??. I have also watched documentaries about murder and diminished responsibility, I was mostly fascinated by the Dennis Nilsen's story and the way he behaved when he was arrested.

I aspire to be a solicitor because it is a way to help people and it is also a way to influence the society for a better change. It is also a very intellectual job that requires problem solving and involves constant learning and intellect development. As well as that, Law offers a broad career choice of areas of work which appeals to me as I develop my interest in areas I would like to specialise in.

I currently work as a play worker at a primary school where I assist children from the age of 4-9 and organise play work for them. This job gave me crucial skills such as developing communication with people of all ages. I learned to work well in a team, as well as on my own. It also brings out my creative thinking and problem solving skills when I have to solve disagreements between the children. I also worked as a waitress for a year, which developed my leadership skills when I had to provide training to new employees.

One of my hobbies includes drawing. I find it very relaxing, but it also helps me improve my concentration skills as some drawings take 2-4 hours to draw. I also like to exercise because it helps me clear my mind and release stress.

In conclusion, I think I am suitable to study law at university because I am highly motivated and hardworking. I am also punctual and can manage my time well as I always meet all my college deadlines on time, spend time independently learning and sustain a job. (take out social life :-/ ) In addition, I have a good mind set for studying law as I look at things from different perspectives and am capable of constructing a structured argument with a well-developed and non-biased conclusion.

I feel I am ready and committed to work hard to achieve my goals through further learning in higher education.

What are you most looking forward to study at uni as part of the law degree??

## PS Law

Derek Bentley's verdict as shown in the film 'Let Him Have It' sparked an interest in me regarding the effect the mental health of a defendant can have on their conviction. In Bentley's case, I felt deep sympathy for him as his mental age was not taken into consideration during sentencing which to me was an injustice. This led me to watch "Provoked" exploring Ahluwalia's 1992 case and battered women's syndrome. I was able to empathise and understand that sometimes defendants need support rather than demonisation. After visiting my local Crown Court and witnessing a criminal trial I was sold. I wished to pursue a career in law. The influence of legal representation on the outcome of a case affecting the victim, defendant and their families inspired me. To have a significant, rewarding impact on other people's lives is something I am keen to achieve within my future career.

Studying A Level Law has heightened my attention to detail in pinpointing areas of discrepancy in my own writing to gave me an advantage in debates. Understanding precedent I am able to consider past cases when exploring current issues. English Language enhanced my communication and critical thinking skills, enhancing my written responses to case scenarios. For me, Media Studies was at first a subject of enjoyment but I have found I am able to explore current issues and the effect that they have on the world around us. It has developed my essay writing skills and given me tools to carry out a research investigation, which I believe would be beneficial when studying law.

Whilst undertaking National Citizen Service, I worked proficiently in a team, utilising my initiative and positive attitude. I found an interest in participating in thrill seeking activities such as cliff jumping and quad biking and embraced this. Volunteering at Safe Haven, supplying food and company to the homeless, I dealt with people from different backgrounds and ages, exploring a deeper comprehension of less fortunate areas of society. This I believe will help me empathise with people within the legal framework and be objective when situations demand it. Working the past year as a receptionist has allowed me to develop rapport with a wide range of people and my responsibility, reliability and drive have ensured I work to a high standard. At school I won the Best Conduct Award within my year group. I made it my priority to be well behaved and organised. As a prefect, I was given the opportunity to work with my peers and build new relationships whilst benefiting the school.

In October 2015 I became interested in teaching myself about nutrition and exercise and I improved my fitness level. The commitment I showed through this taught me something new about myself. When I strive for something I will push myself to get it. I am proud to say that I am self-disciplined and determined to succeed. Outside college I also enjoy acting. During school I participated in the national theatre and we performed the play 'A Letter to Lacey', competing against other schools. Visiting the theatre and watching how someone can transform their entire persona for the few hours that they perform is something I love. Watching the play 'The Curious Incident of a Dog in the Night-Time', a well-staged murder mystery, kept me engaged from beginning to end. Reading is something that I have found to be a method of escape and I ensure I read most nights to de-stress and unwind. My favourite books are 'Stolen' and the 'Girl on the Train'.

Attending a lecture at Sussex University in which I was introduced to the intoxication rule, and participating in a workshop at the University of Law around Knox's case heightened my enthusiasm to study Law at a higher level to evolve my knowledge and skills that can better the lives of victims of devastating events. I hope to be in the company of those who share my passion for Law and to practice this in my chosen career.

## **PS Law**

At University I want to study Law in order to begin a successful and rewarding career within the field. I look forward to undertaking a degree and building up a plethora of knowledge from the many areas of law, as well as developing the skills to enact and use this knowledge effectively within the places a law career may take me, such as a court room.

Whilst at college I studied Mathematics and Politics A levels as well as a Business BTEC. Having finished these studies, I achieved 2 A's as well as a distinction star in the BTEC course. I believe that these strong grades show my affinity for academic studies and that I would perform well within higher education. Throughout my mathematics studies I developed problem solving skills as well as logical and analytical skills. I particularly found that the ability to analyse a problem before working through it in a logical manner was essential to the course and I like to think that these skills could be transferred to a Law degree in scenarios such as analysing a case before making a structured, logical argument. Creating well structured arguments was also vital to my Politics course as well as developing an understanding of where the law of the country comes from and how it is created and upheld. On top of these two A levels, my BTEC course gave me the opportunity to conduct research on a range of business issues before presenting the research through a variety of medium. The researching and presenting skills I developed here are something I believe will be beneficial when starting higher education.

Away from my politics studies I like to take my classroom knowledge and use it in order to stay informed and engaged about current events. I also like to apply knowledge from my business course to resell clothing on a small scale. A few years down the line, I hope to find myself applying knowledge from my law degree to real life scenarios in a similar manner.

Before my current role, I held two previous roles within the culinary industry; one as a kitchen porter in a local pub and another working in a local fish and chip shop. Both these roles taught me the importance of teamwork, responsibility and time management – all things I feel will be useful as I look to study law at higher education, in particular teamwork if I am to be part of a team deconstructing a case and putting together an argument. I am currently working part time for smart parking as a car park attendant, my duties include maintaining all parking machines and ensuring that irate and/or confused customers are able to purchase a parking ticket. This role has taught me a lot about independence as I am given total responsibility over my car park and to ensure that it runs as expected as well as ensuring customer qualms are dealt with. I hope to develop and use my newfound independence and responsibility when completing my law degree whether it be taking control of my coursework or ensuring I revise properly for an exam.

Throughout my life I have been a member of my local football team, and from here a lot of my team-oriented nature has developed, something I hope to display when taking part in group work upon the course. I have also spent time as part of a local rifles club. Quite a unique activity, I found here that I developed patience and discipline skills which I believe would be useful in scenarios where I am working through course work or undertaking masses of revision. On top of this I have also been a member of UK MENSA since 2014 which I believe to be testament to my problem-solving abilities, abilities I hope to use when working through mock cases on the degree and when hopefully moving on to doing the real thing in the future.

To summarise, I want to study a law degree as I believe it to be the most fascinating of subjects, which underpins our society and an area I hope to force a career in undertaking a high skilled, challenging role such as that of a solicitor.

Without law we would not have the everyday freedoms to express our say in political matters or live in a civilized society, this is what inspires me to study law. I want to be the person that contributes to maintaining our fundamental human rights in an ever-changing world. The law embraces and improves every aspect of society, from national elections to new drone laws coming into effect. As society develops our laws develop alongside and it is the fact that the law is always adapting that fascinates me and draws me to studying this subject at degree level.

Studying modern history at A-level heightened my interest of the law's significance in constructing the foundations of societies we know today. The impact of law in my history studies was most evident in the topic of British politics and the urgency for parliamentary reform in 1780-1928, including the Great Reform Act. My English and Sociology A-level studies have helped my understanding to critically interpret academic arguments and apply my knowledge. These subjects provoked my curiosity not only in the effect of enforced laws, but in the effect a population is able to possess over the employment of new laws.

In order to better my understanding of the law in practice, working six hours a week at my local law firm has enabled me to develop a genuine insight into the conscientious work ethic required in this industry. I have adhered to these abilities through attending client meetings, preparing research for cases and filing. In particular, I have developed an enthusiasm when engaging in personal injury cases as the theme of justice is explicit in this area of the law. This was especially made evident to me in a case whereby a superior company were proven responsible for harm they had directly caused. An example of where law will always bring me personal satisfaction, without law an individual's harm could have easily been disregarded. My experience has further grown by independently visiting law courts to witness the law in action. I think this was an essential as seeing the reality of law in action inspired me to become a part of a career which centers around ensuring society is continuously achieving equality.

Regarding my interests outside of academia, I am a member of the Brighton Surf Life Saving Club, this consists of attending fitness and first-aid sessions in the sea every Saturday morning. This has helped me to achieve fundamental skills when working as a team in order to problem-solve, increasing my abilities of working as a group physically and mentally. I am also an avid reader, currently enjoying 'The Testaments' by Margaret Atwood which allows me to escape daily routines and creatively follow my imagination. Following my love of literature, 'Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do?' written by Michael J Sandel illuminated my desire to involve in debating and question socially constructed morals. As my portfolio course within college this year I chose to learn British Sign Language, enabling me to broaden my communication within the community and understand the limitations of a disability.

My employment as a lifeguard at King Alfred Leisure Centre has provided me with valuable transferrable skills such as responsibility and critical coordination with colleagues and the public in emergencies or day to day life. I have been employed for over a year which demonstrates my committed attitude toward my ambitions and work regular shifts each week. I am also able to display responsibility and dedicated attitude through earning the Junior Sports Leadership Award achieved through meeting requirements of planning, constructing and teaching P.E. lessons within a secondary school.

To be provided with the opportunity to study a law degree would facilitate my aspiration of creating a future career in the justice system and becoming a part of actively overcoming discriminations.

## PS Liberal Arts

"We don't ask for the future, we take the present." Whilst on the #Youth4ClimateChange protest in London last year, I stood in the middle of the Strand, looking through my camera as hundreds of demonstrators marched towards me. They were chanting and blasting horns, holding a banner emblazoned with those words. I was struck by the power of the collective voice and felt compelled to capture the choreographed line. The painted banner and unified voices combined artistic expression and history being made.

Since then, everything has accelerated and this message resonates with me on a new level, as I sit here on my sofa, suspended in lockdown, with ever-changing headlines of new vaccines and distant finish lines. This time, I don't dream of the future, I WANT the present. I've found ways to broaden my world view in new immersive ways during this strange gap year; working in a busy Middle Eastern restaurant whilst studying the history of the Middle East via an online course and filtering news and culture feeds.

I enjoy 'joining the dots' across areas of arts/culture/society/politics/philosophy etc - 'Pattern Recognition' to quote William Gibson. Noting how 'micro' issues from dance to comedy to street-food all clearly link to the everyday reality of street-level politics, past and present; linking different disciplines and ideas, intending to be informed, open-minded and 'positively skeptical & cynical'. (I've recently liked reading *'The Death of Truth'* by Michiko Kakutani, and *'We Have Been Harmonised'* by Kai Strittmatter.) When travelling to Berlin last year, I witnessed hordes of people lining up to 'peace and pout' in front of the Berlin Wall for Instagram likes, both capitalising on and diminishing the realities of the horror that the wall symbolises. From a generation who protest and demand a better future, ignorance is not woke.

Meanwhile, my training and passion for dance, drama and music has taught me about the power and value in collaboration. I was a member of the award winning Ceyda Tanc Contemporary Dance company, was selected for the CAT scheme, and shortlisted for Laban; all full of inspiring leadership and creativity. I achieved accredited awards, Arts Award and obtained a GCSE dance in Year 9, enabling me to study two additional arts GCSES in Year 11; drama and music.

Starting 6<sup>th</sup> form, I continued performing arts outside college through the Young Actors Group and an 'Introduction to Filmmaking' course at Brighton Film School. This allowed me to focus on Modern History and English and a visual art, photography. As a key contributor to the college magazine, I shared insights and imagery and participated in the Sixth Form 'Model UN' Debating Society. My interest in journalism resulted in Extinction Rebellion posting my images on social media and my 'Young Hearts' images being selected to promote the college.

My training in performing arts has also attuned me to interpreting body language as well as speech: when attending a series of MPs speeches, I was fascinated by the performance skills utilised on the political stage i.e. the use of classic intimidation tactics. Recognising these cues enabled me to review them with a more critical eye and inspired me to study the historical political arena more intently.

I feel the skills and disciplines I've developed both creatively and academically have prepared me for the rigors of a multi-disciplinary Liberal Arts degree, where I'd relish the opportunity to collaborate with different university departments. (During the PR and research agency internships I've completed, I saw the value of a multi-disciplinary approach; noting how projects combined semioticians, art directors and strategists, etc).

In an ever changing, unpredictable world there is an imperative need for us to challenge conventions and accepted thinking, be boundary crossers and interdisciplinary workers. And that is what Liberal Arts means to me, where I'd like to focus on Modern History and Theatre Studies.



## PS Linguistics

My interest in language, specifically linguistics, came not from being bilingual growing up, nor from being stereotyped due to the way I spoke, but instead the much later (and perhaps less noble) realisation that the way I chose to speak could shape not only how my words were perceived, but how people perceived me in general. I find it fascinating every word spoken, whether pre-conceived or spontaneous, contributes towards either the subtle or overt representation of something, and even the same word can translate to different implications based on the person, place and time whereby it is said. It is, then, the implications of language which captivate me most.

Nowhere, perhaps, are the implications of language more important than in that of political discourse - which particularly interests me. An investigation into the language of several politicians surrounding the Windrush scandal as part of my English Language course allowed me to further appreciate how variables such as race, political alignment and position in government affected linguistic choices each politician made. Studying modern history at college, I found similarities in speech styles between figures who typically embody national pride (such as Winston Churchill and Charles de Gaulle) fascinating. In all of De Gaulle's public addresses, it transpires the words 'France' or 'the country' accounted for 55% of the top 10 most featured words- so clearly a factor as simple as the frequency of words said is instrumental in shaping and enforcing a politician's identity, and in many cases the course of history.

For my interests in the sociolinguistic parts of the A-Level course, I struggled with parts relating to history and development of language, and I must admit that throughout the course, I didn't find it as interesting as other areas. Since leaving college, I endeavoured to further my knowledge in the field as I knew I would inevitably study it if I wanted to pursue linguistics at degree level. Reading Deutcher's 'The Unfolding of Language' revealed a more natural and less prescribed journey in language development than I had understood from my A-level studies, changing my view on the topic dramatically.

Studying French at A-Level was something I relished and excelled in. As I became exposed to more native French material and interactions, I found discrepancies between the two languages beyond words and syntax - such as the fact that word-for-word translation between the two does, more often than not, give way to a different pragmatic meanings and tone. Working in France has developed my understanding of how different cultures adopt different scripts in employee-customer interactions. For instance, a tone which would be deemed both friendly and professional in a hospitality setting here would likely be perceived as imposing and somewhat amateur in France.

I have always been very socially driven and extrovert, something I feel has reinforced my interest in language. Since age 14, I have worked in a popular local restaurant and bar, developing time management skills, personal responsibility and, once I began studying linguistics, an in-depth understanding of how types of linguistic power, politeness theory and occupational language manifest in my own place of work. Playing rugby from an early age helped me develop my overall fitness, self-confidence and ability to work in a team. It was also from taking a keen interest in health and fitness that my interest in cooking grew, experimenting with different flavours and techniques.

Of course, while I didn't pursue these extra-academic commitments in hope of drawing conclusions on the language use of the social groups I encounter, it is fascinating to look back and identify differences in conventions of interactions between myself and teammates compared to myself with a coach, let alone a customer in the restaurant, and consider the factors which contribute towards why this may be.

## **PS Management**

As both of my parents have always ran their own businesses I have grown up watching, learning and eventually working within these independent companies. This has resulted in me having a real interest and eagerness to follow this particular career pathway. I see myself as an ambitious individual with the determination to work hard in order to achieve my goals.

In my mind, a management degree will be one of the first steps I take in order to learn and acquire the skills I will need in areas such as, financial management, marketing, human resources and leadership. I am expecting this to give me a clearer understanding of the necessary requirements to become a successful leader.

Following my GCSE examinations, I decided to take a risk by choosing A levels topics that were new to me. This was to broaden my knowledge and understanding of areas I have not previously studied. This included the study of Philosophy, a challenging but intriguing subject, helping me develop my thinking, analysis, persuasive argumentation as well as impressive written and skills. Politics A level assisted me with research, data collection as well as improving my listening skills. I was faced with many differing opinions, and this forced me into developing more educated and articulated responses. For my last area of study, I took a creative root to add diversity. Creative Digital Media Productions not only drastically improved and professionalised my IT skills, it introduced me to marketing and enhanced my presentation skills.

I have been working in Starbucks for the last sixteen months which offered me the chance to become a qualified barista as well as enhancing my customer service skills. I have always been an enthusiastic worker who is flexible and hardworking and able to step up to a challenge. During this period I have also developed my communication skills. This area has improved as I have become more confident in my role. It is now my responsibility to assist with training our new staff.

It was my intention in 2020 to take a year out prior to embarking on my Management degree course. As one of my interests is in the leisure industry I applied for a job with Neilson Activity Holidays. I succeeded in securing full time employment with them as a Teen Rep in Italy for the coming summer .This was a very competitive process and I am proud I was one of the successful candidates. Following the summer it was my intention to complete a ski season with Neilson, before travelling next summer.

The current situation means I am no longer guaranteed this opportunity as it is impossible to know when normality will resume. This has made me look at my options and begin to focus on moving forward. Although I definitely intend to revisit my desire to work and travel abroad, I am now considering that it would be sensible to also apply for a university place in 2020.

My business interest lies in Property, Sport and the Leisure industry. I am hoping over a three year degree to have a clearer understanding of which path I will take. Alongside learning and developing the skills I will need, my ambition is to either be successful business owner or to work for a large organisation at a key management level. I want to study a degree that will help me achieve these aims through hard work and commitment, but to also give me an insight into what my future could entail.

## PS Management

My affinity for Management has grown from witnessing, first hand two contrasting styles driven by the current economic climate. My father's cosmeceutical firm operating within the private sector which aims to maximise profit and create value for its stakeholders, is driven by an inclusive meritocratic style. In contrast, my mother, who works in the educational public sector, which has experienced chronic underfunding, operates an autocratic environment. Having insight into these contrasting workplace environments has contributed to my genuine interest and motivation to study Management.

To gain a more practical understanding of business I went on a work placement at my father's firm, this gave me the opportunity to witness theoretical frameworks from Business BTEC in a practical environment, I was involved in tasks to sell de-listed stock. The sales team and I identified the firm- Price check and negotiated a very successful deal that generated £36,000 in revenue. Business Management offers the blend of quantitative and qualitative practices which runs parallel with my interest in my chosen subjects; spanning from my knowledge in market theory which I chose to research further into by reading 'Contagious: Why Things Catch On' by Jonah Berger to more qualitative topics such as marketing and how customers interact and how market trends arise.

My eagerness to study Business Management encouraged me to take A-Level subjects that would give me a diverse range of skills. These include essay writing and problem solving in Business, plus the analytical ethos of finding and presenting data using complex statistical tests in Sociology, which will not only benefit my study in university but also the skills of planning and writing reports on the findings will help me in my future career. Textiles has been greatly beneficial in terms of my development, as it has improved my ability to think creatively and to identify patterns. Creativity is vital in problem solving and contributing to out of the box solutions.

Business topics I have researched include Business Development, reading "Good to Great" by James. C. Collins; whilst learning how infant companies, like my father's, can compete against multinational firms. Research into developments in economics while reading "The Economist" has fascinated me as you can see the ramifications in all aspects of life. I have developed a critical thinking mindset due to participating in sociology debates, where I was able to see different views on behalf of the differing sides.

I have taken part in many activity's such as sports leader and debate club from these I learnt how to excel in teams and improved on my knowledge of risk and decision analysis. I had a brief initiation into management in my own venture of selling clothes online, which has helped my communication and organisation skills.

I am proactive in engaging with new experiences, I've been involved in many charity events, for example, the Race For Life and also my friends and I were a part of a large scale fundraising event to raise money for our friend who was involved in a life changing accident. I have developed excellent leadership and communication skills and an ability to independently plan and conduct tasks. As a member of the Debating Society I have to be articulate and persuasive which will benefit me in course discussions. This has meant that I have had to successfully balance my time between study, practice and work.

I am confident that with the skills and experiences I already have, I can learn and contribute extensively to the course and look forward to the exciting challenges that come with University.

## PS Marketing

When I explored marketing, it immediately caught my excitement and attention. I never thought I'd find an area which is so holistic and dynamic in its approach in an ever evolving field. The combination of creativity and analytics is what I've been searching for as a future career. I have always had a passion for business and sales and I see marketing as the process of creating, communicating, delivering and exchanging goods that have value for customers, clients, partners and society at large. Muhammad Yunus said: "I'm encouraging young people to become social business entrepreneurs and contribute to the world rather than just making money. Making money is no fun. Contributing to and changing the world is a lot more fun". That's what I want to do.

During my A-level studies I learnt the value of developing a holistic approach to learning, especially in Psychology where you couldn't only use recall to excel, but also learning to apply knowledge creatively to be confident you have an understanding. This is one of the skills that I'm very excited to bring to marketing as I know that marketing continues to thrive and develop through its search for different ways to approach ideas. The intensity of my experience with biology has taught me so very well the art of mastering anything, whether academic or not, you must endure the stage of learning the foundations and the basics. Without them, you fail to become an expert in your field and any further knowledge shatters without solid foundations. With discipline you thrive and I'm prepared and excited to do the same in marketing.

Studying A-Levels have equipped me with time management skills for all aspects of my life. I've certainly become a faster and quicker learner due to intensity of study allowing me to engage not in isolation with my studies, but collectively as a group. Independent research was revisited and discussion encouraged, to broaden our understanding of our syllabus. Sharing new ideas and learning from one another was rewarding. I believe everyone has something different to offer you might not and we learn much more when ideas are explored, challenged and expanded on by others and I can't wait to use this approach in marketing : as Dwayne Wade said "for me , starting a business is like building a team. You find the right partners who are good at things you aren't".

Working in retail has shown me the importance and value of a strong supportive team for a business to thrive in such a busy demanding environment. This encourages openness, creativity and the ability to be transparent and truthful with one another, encouraging listening and a willingness to communicate and learn. The demanding day to day life at work has developed the way I handle stressful situations get well. As a team we are always busy, multitasking multiple packages for multiple customers at the same time, while also having to deal with impatient customers. Although this can be very stressful I've managed to maintain a professional attitude no matter the intensity of the situation. Selling on eBay has helped not only my online skills, but I've learnt to market items and present them to customers in engaging ways. It has also made me more aware why customers make purchases and I have developed my analytical skills. I enjoy selecting the right product to sell and identifying features which attract buyers, and even more importantly, developing a relationship and trust with my online buyers. I've recently come together with a group of passionate people to start the beginning of our "fuel for life" charity for orphaned and less fortunate children.

I am ready and passionate to study marketing further. I am resilient and my gap year has helped me overcome the difficulties, and sadness, I faced at home during my A level exams for which my Guidance manager will be writing a separate letter. I hope you will consider my application.

## PS Maths

Although the whole concept of maths always fascinated me, I never realised how applicable it was to the real world. I thought that if I really wanted to make a difference I should be a doctor or charity worker. Until studying at A level, I hadn't truly realised how beautiful maths was. In an ever growing world divided by language, there is a common one, Mathematics.

As my interest in mathematics grew, I knew that I wanted to study it in some form in further education. I wanted to find a way whereby I could combine the elegance of mathematics with the reality of economics. I'm inspired by math's infinite uses, and its ease in applying it to the real world, whether in economic forecasting, or calculating compound interest. The idea someone could form an algorithm to code messages to reach a final receiver fascinates me.

Throughout AS economics, I was blown away by how little I knew about the world around me. Studying economics has really provoked my interest in current affairs and how I absorb and process information around me. I was unaware of how indifferent I was to so many influential possibilities occurring in today's world. Now, a year on, my understanding and motivation to be up to date with headlines has sparked my eagerness to study economics in the future.

The whole concept of chemistry has always appealed to me. I find immense satisfaction in the subject, which has also provided me with many skills, for instance my ability and desire to be precise with every calculation and experiment. My scrupulous nature has aided me throughout my A levels, I am a self-critical perfectionist. I favour evident answers backed up by substantial research and science, perhaps this is why maths, economics and chemistry have such a large appeal.

Working at Cinder Hill Equine centre really helped widen my perspective - not all jobs are as glamorous as they appear to be. I had to deal with stressful situations under pressure such as delivering a foal, and although it was unfamiliar, it showed my ability to follow complex instructions.

I obtained my bronze Duke of Edinburgh and to complete this course we had to complete a community task; I took the elderly shopping every week. It was very rewarding and the experience showed my determination and resilience, helped me build a strong character and showed me that even small achievements are worthwhile. At A2 I picked up Sports Leadership, in which I teach the community various sports. The experience has helped my planning and organisation skills.

Working at Lloyds Pending Lending decisions taught me about credit ratings, mortgages and loans. Working with large sums of money was daunting however by the end of it I was even assessing loan requests. I had to learn how to use the system and various codes. This shows my ability to pursue foreign and sophisticated tasks. The experience assisted the growth of my communication skills, as well as my ability to make a good first impression.

I represented my school in many sports including hockey, tennis and athletics. These sports taught me to work well in a team and stay focused on the task at hand; they enhanced my cognitive skills and brought out my competitive side. I played hockey at first team level, being one of the youngest on the team taught me how to find common ground with others easily and that age wasn't a barrier between me and my teammates. I was selected to go on a hockey tour to Holland, representing my school abroad taught me to carry myself well, and that although I didn't speak the language being polite and kind was a massive key to communication. I presently play for Brighton and Hove hockey club and would love to continue the sport at university.

I believe I have acquired a polite, well balanced nature I am confident will be the perfect base for a promising career. I am positive I possess both the ability, commitment and drive to study with passion and thoughtfulness at a higher level, and that this will smooth the path of my future. 3995

## PS Maths

Throughout my school and college years, I have come to accept Maths as a fundamental tool integrated in modern day society, from simple cash machines to the Large Hadron Collider. It's the foundation of our understanding of the cosmos, causing us to focus on proposing new creative ideas; resulting in new areas of numerical knowledge discovered and evolving, allowing us to apply new theoretical concepts to real life circumstances. For these reasons, studying at degree level will prepare me to explore vast regions of Maths in detail, satisfying my eagerness to grasp further knowledge.

As I see it, Maths is an intriguing area of study requiring the capability of arithmetic manipulation, and then applying it to diverse situations, the result of which I find highly rewarding. This consequently influenced my passion for the subject to broaden intensely, and changed the perception I had of Maths by arriving at the conclusion of its universal way of communication. My penchant for Maths was captivated by calculus, an elegant section of Maths, with a widespread use in the financial industry due to its property of calculating exponential rates of change.

In order to expand the mathematical knowledge I currently possess, I attend Step and Stretch sessions weekly in order to prepare for the coming STEP exam next year. It's inevitable taking this exam will augment my ways of approaching difficult questions; this is beneficial at degree level as I will be faced with similar questions that will require perseverance and patience. Moreover, through mentoring a first year student and subsequently improving their mathematical ability and confidence as well as increase my own qualities, for example, responsibility and organisation, have developed my skills as successful mentor, and likewise a successful university student.

Unfortunately, due to the fact that my secondary school was in special measures, a Further Maths course wasn't provided. Yet my enthusiasm spurred me on to take every mathematical opportunity presented given that I relish solving challenging problems. Examples include my participation in the year 9 UKMT Junior Maths Challenge resulting in a bronze level award, which was surpassed by the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge success in year 11 attaining 'best in year' certificate. My love for Maths didn't stop there, for I partook in Edexcel's Level 3 algebra course, in which I was one of two pupils to pass from the year group.

My interrelated A-Level courses proved advantageous towards my progression in my Maths studies. For instance Chemistry ties in majorly well with vectors as I tackle Hess' Law questions with similar conventional methods; it has helped me take on a more analytical way of thinking. On the other hand Biology enhances my data handling skill when dealing with multiple variables. My urge to overcome challenges lead me on to study AS Further Maths in my second year which gave me a clear indication of the fascinating topics to come at university.

I had a very eventful summer by joining the NCS programme where I had the most amazing experience of enjoying the outdoors, exploring my leadership and team skills. In my spare time I enjoy reading, specifically 'Mathematics for the Curious' by Peter M. Higgins. Coming across the unsolved 'Goldbach Conjecture' convinced me not all theories have a guaranteed proof yet mathematicians are persistent in finding an answer. I find this particularly inspiring.

Plunging into a greater depth of Maths at university will enable me to comprehend further it's implementation in modern day use and our dependency on the subject. University plays a vital role in my life since I strive to pursue my dream of achieving a career in the field of Maths. I visualise my education as a voyage that when accomplished will make my dream a reality, and truly deepen the definition I have of the term 'Mathematics'.

## PS Media & Comms

The media plays such a huge role in modern communication. I feel passionate about the debates the subject generates and the differences in opinion that can arise – it is never a disinteresting topic. After spending a year away from education, I am eager to study Media and Communications as I desire to confidently participate in these debates and support my judgements with extensive knowledge. I know the subject to be versatile and so will produce multiple opportunities for me in the future.

Last Autumn I organised work experience with Dv8 Sussex which allowed me to explore the areas of Public Relations and Marketing. It proved useful and exciting to gain real experience and learn expectations of the sector I am eager to pursue. Media Studies A-Level emphasised to me the influence of the media socially and culturally. Research we completed into different ideologies highlighted different viewpoints and perspectives and ways in which they can be portrayed in texts. I revel in dissecting media texts and exploring deeper meanings they hold; considering audience positioning and ways in which producers of texts achieve this. During my A level study we focused on Marxism and its existing relevance in modern media texts, contemplating how ideologies such as this, can be raised without direct audience acknowledgement; many still argue that the Hypodermic Syringe theory is still applicable, yet I would argue audience involvement is more complex and active in the 21st century multi-media context.

Thomas De Zengotita's *Mediated: How the Media Shape Your World* (2005), presents the argument that the term 'real' has less and less meaning, that all representations within the media are constructions by the creators, whose aim it is to manipulate their audiences to follow their agenda. For example, Lynx's 'Angels Will Fall' advertising campaign suggesting to its male audience that using the product means beautiful women will literally fall from the sky to be with them – producers are manipulating an audience member's insecurities and need for love and attention. I understood this to be a thought-provoking perception as texts are being produced continuously in the media, which can influence every angle of our lives. How can we know when reading a news article what is truth and what is in fact a media construct merely motivating the producer's ideologies or political standings?

My A-level programme taught me how to successfully manage my time so that I can produce all my work to the highest possible standard. Outside my A-level studies I was a student rep for my tutor group which involved me passing on opinions to the Student Union. I relished working with my tutor group to hear their concerns and then representing this in a wider forum. The role made me feel like I was proactive and improving the college for the benefit of all the students. Presently I am working as a sales advisor which has been tremendously valuable in developing my communication skills and also providing me experience in a professional working environment. The role also offered me added responsibility which I take pride in fulfilling. I would savour the opportunity that the experience of studying at a higher level would offer me. I believe I have the skills and the maturity to take advantage of the breadth of knowledge a media degree would offer, and take this forward into the workplace.

## PS Media

In a world where one media headline can both unite and divide people, learning about one of the most important industries in the world intrigues me. Having the ability to vocalise the truth to people through the art of communication, to educate and enlighten seems to me, one of the most important jobs there is. With the coronavirus pandemic, I have realised the importance of communication through the medium of media. News, in all its formats, has brought the world together to keep people safe, to say thank you for the front line workers, and to inform people how the world is changing through these current tough times. I have become more drawn to the idea of being able to project news to the world, as I have seen how truly important it is.

Throughout my education, I have always been very conscious to choose subjects that would open doors for me and allow me to discover different paths. I created a love for English, specifically English Literature at GCSE level, which led me to continue the subject into later studies and choose it as an A Level. In addition, the passion I have developed for writing encouraged me to choose History as an A level subject. The different writing techniques in the two subjects as allowed me to establish a better range of abilities and helped me to decide what aspects of writing I enjoy the most. I also chose to study Sports Science at BTEC level Sport is something I have been extremely passionate about and has been a significant part of my life. Through taking such a practical subject I have allowed myself to not only develop a stronger passion for something I love, proving my dedication and motivation when I enjoy a subject, but also has enhanced my team skills and ability to communicate with my fellow students. I have realised I wish to work with people and be part of an industry that allows me to be in a team environment where there is a support network of individuals trying to improve the world.

As I have previously mentioned, working collaboratively has always been something in which I have excelled. I have had many experiences which allowed me to gain a broader perspective on different professional situations and environments. I have been fortunate enough to explore excellent work experience in the media world, working alongside the PR company Bright Light PR. Whilst doing my work experience with this company I was able to attend a product launch for the press, communicating with multiple people involved in a product launch. I was able to ask different journalists about their line of work, seeing first-hand the differences between online media and magazines. I worked with photographers, people organising the event, and the team displaying their product. I have gained a wide experience of the media world and enjoyed being a part. I have also been lucky enough to complete unpaid work experience for the NHS, during which time I worked closely with ENT specialists in London. Working in this environment enabled me to see the hard work that goes on inside one of the medical departments that may often be overlooked by the public. I was able to sit in on patient reviews and see how the NHS works meticulously to better the lives of people who desperately need their help. Through both of these extremely important industries I have become very astute in the importance of professionalism, and have subsequently reflected and developed skills that very few people my age will have been fortunate enough to gain.

I know that I am prepared to enter an industry that requires people to be professional and understanding. Through my education and the work experience I have gained, I know that I have the capabilities to edify people through the form of media.



## PS Medicine

The medical practices behind psychiatry, and the concept of mental illnesses, have captivated my mind from as soon as I was aware of their existence. The act of the brain going against itself, as well as the body it is hardwired to protect, is fascinating to me, and my personal experience with mental illness has only propelled my interest for the world of psychiatry and medicine further.

The 5-year long BrightMed programme I joined at Brighton & Sussex Medical School allowed me to explore all angles of medicine from an early age. From this time, I learned the importance of such skills as organisation and dedication to the course, essential for a career in medicine. In the last few years, I have taken an interest in researching Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID), the disorder wherein a person will, after repeated childhood trauma, fragment into multiple identities to keep certain memories hidden from the body's "host" identity. I strengthened my research and analysis skills from the completion of a research poster project for BrightMed, using my studies on DID, that was presented to Dean of the medical school.

During my week shadowing cardiac surgeons at St Thomas' hospital, I was able to be involved in the dynamic structure of a multiple disciplinary team; in morning meetings, all members would discuss multiple lines of enquiry for the treatment of specific patients. Beneficence was shown to patients by comparing the treatments to the efficiency and quality of life the patient would have. In the clinic, the consultant exhibited such consideration for his patients by showing a great deal of empathy and constantly checking in with how the patients felt about his diagnosis and treatment plan. He also had patience for people who were emotional, struggling with the right words, or where English was not their first language. This level of compassion and genuine care exhibited and mirrored my own desire for people to feel listened to – as opposed to just heard – to aid them in feeling less vulnerable and more understood.

On attending a paediatric conference at Sussex University, I heard a speech from the parents of Jemima Layzell, on how they had been able to save 8 people's lives with their young daughter's organs. Although the situation was devastating, her parents spoke of such efficiency from the doctors, as well as their utmost support in terms of psychiatric care for the trauma the family suffered. These are attributes I would love to be able to provide for patients and families during their hardships.

During secondary school, I was a mentor every day for the younger students who had mental health, home-life or academic issues, and spent my lunchtimes assisting them. This included help with homework, emotional support and supplying appropriate resources for where to seek professional help. My compassion for these students expressed the enthusiasm I have for taking up the responsibility of other's well-beings and aiding them to the furthest extent possible.

Starting my new job as a Healthcare Assistant in the Emergency Departments of the Sussex County Hospital, I have been fully immersed in the lifestyle and work of a hospital environment. The attitudes of my surrounding workforce members have caused me to conduct myself with a vast sense of professionalism within my job. My gap year will consist of much clinical experience, as well as learning the best skills I can from the multidisciplinary team around me in the hope to study medicine and return to the hospital as a doctor myself.

To conclude, my passion for the intricate functions – and dysfunctions – of the body has fuelled me to gain as much understanding, insight and first-hand experience as I can to steer my life in the direction of a career in medicine.

## PS Medicine

Medicine is a dynamic field and I am excited by the idea of being faced by clinical challenges on a daily basis whilst being in a career that is constantly evolving. Shadowing stroke physicians at the front line of A&E as they formulated life changing decisions was invaluable in observing these dynamics first-hand. Stroke calls allowed me to experience practically how patient-centred care was delivered to tailor the patients' needs. By attending thrombolysis protocols, I learnt about evidence based guidelines and was able to appreciate the importance of research in delivering up to date high quality care. I also worked along molecular oncologists developing a new drug targeting a kinase controlling mitosis. This enabled me to gain hands-on lab experience as well as broaden my knowledge of the ethical dilemmas surrounding medical research. Interested in how these issues evolved, I read 'The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks' and based my EPQ on whether the use of HeLa cells, the first human cancer cell line, is morally justified in research.

During my experience in Cardiac Surgery, I spoke to a patient initially having normal investigations, but later diagnosed with a ventricular septal defect requiring extensive surgery. This made me appreciate uncertainty of diagnosis in medicine, and how difficult this can be for both clinicians and patients. Observing the discussion of difficult news with the patient made me aware of the fine balance between maintaining professionalism and showing empathy to patients and their relatives. Although these are encounters faced everyday in medicine, I believe that I will embrace the challenge? Enjoy giving bad news? thoroughly enjoy learning how to tackle them as a junior doctor. While shadowing in the Trauma and Orthopaedics department, I attended a trauma call and observed how the varying sets of skills of the MDT come together to provide the best patient care. I have witnessed how a good leader allocates jobs in a clear concise manner and how maintaining effective communication is essential for any team setting. Seeing the team's dedication, hard work and enthusiasm result in successfully stabilising a sick patient made me certain about embarking on such a rewarding career.

Working at a local care home looking after residents with advanced age and chronic disease was an enlightening experience into the complexity of meeting holistic care needs. I was able to observe the bio-psychosocial model at work through the input of GPs, nurses, psychiatrists, physiotherapists and occupational therapists. Spending time with residents enabled me to improve my listening skills hence build good rapports with them. This enabled me to successfully lead and organise group activities such as gardening, playing dominos and drawing sessions. In addition, I worked at a local restaurant which involved me being responsible of the cashier and assisting with catering. This experience improved my strategies of working effectively under pressure as part of a team to achieve targets.

I am an active member of my church community as both a Sunday School teacher and a Scouts leader. In addition, I help arrange provision of food and drinks for the homeless. These activities help me develop my communication skills through interacting with people of different ages and cultural backgrounds. I play the guitar and have constantly taught myself to enhance my talent. I enjoy drawing as a way of relaxing but I also believe that it helps me pay attention to details and recognise patterns which are crucial skills for diagnosing.

My passion for science and desire to pursue a lifelong learning career has made my heart fully set on studying Medicine. I am confident that not only do I possess the essential skills required to succeed as a doctor, but also the determination and capacity for hard work that is needed for such a highly demanding yet honourable career.

## **PS Midwifery**

Shortly after starting secondary school, I was lucky enough to be present at my sister's birth. It was an incredible experience and I was able to observe the midwives' calm professionalism and the strategies that they employed in order to meet the mothers needs, and ensure the safety of both her and the baby. It was at this point that I first started to consider a career in midwifery and this informed many of my subsequent academic choices.

Whilst studying Health and Social Care I completed modules in Communication in Care Settings and Care Practice and Provision. These have helped me to understand both the impact of positive, verbal and non-verbal communication in order to identify the personal qualities and skills required to meet the needs of service users. During my first year, I planned and implemented a campaign to increase awareness of mental health and reduce stigmatisation. I used questionnaires as an interactive starting point, leading to further discussion and debate. The project required teamwork, good time management and organisational skills. Furthermore a recent NHS funded study from Oxford University found that 17% of all UK maternal deaths were related to mental health issues. This is of particular interest to me when considering the mental health of pregnant women and new mothers with post-natal depression. In my second year of health and social care I interviewed a community midwife about her roles and responsibilities. This gave me an insight into the importance of empowering women during their ante and post-natal experience and how the midwife can support them.

Many studies have recently been carried out concerning the importance of nutrition during pregnancy, and the long term impact of the mother's diet on the baby's lifetime health. Studying nutrition has broadened my knowledge and interest in this area, and I would like to apply this to a future career in midwifery. Studying sociology led to an increased awareness of and interest in social order, disorder and change and how this affects the individual.

Paid work experience so far has been in retail settings where I have developed my communication and interpersonal skills. I have needed to plan my time carefully and have balanced working long hours and late shifts with college assignments and timetabling. Voluntary work experience included 6 months as a retail assistant for Oxfam. I am proud to have worked for an organisation that is committed to raising global standards of healthcare. Additionally I completed volunteer work placements at a local primary school and nursery, where I was able to make reports and observations of the children. I am currently on the waiting list for voluntary work at the Royal Sussex County Hospital and I have arranged to sit in on an ante-natal course run by local independent midwives starting in January 2016.

I believe I have the qualities and personality needed to work as a midwife. I am a broad-minded and sociable person with a naturally empathetic nature and I consider myself very lucky to have consistent support and encouragement from my family. Moreover as part of my weekly routine I enjoy running and yoga which helps me to relax.

A midwife plays an incredibly important role in any community. She must educate, support and empower women during one of the most significant periods of their lives. My belief in the importance of this role and my determination to succeed as a midwife would see me through what I understand to be a very challenging and demanding course of study. I would feel extremely privileged to be accepted on a midwifery course and I am looking forward to the independence of university life.

## PS Nursing

Since studying Child Development at GCSE, I realised I wanted to pursue a career in Child Nursing. I've always been interested in careers involving medicine, but I found nursing to be such a personal and engaging role. The idea of making someone at ease and happy through difficult times is incredibly rewarding. Since I was a little girl, I felt an enormous amount of care towards family members who felt poorly. If I was ever asked what I wanted to do when I was older, my answer would always be nursing. I am caring, reliable, hard-working and sensitive which I believe are valuable qualities for this course.

Studying biology at A level expanded my interest in human treatments. I found it fascinating how we can distinguish between different diseases and then treat and restore patients back to good health. My research and investigative skills have been improved by achieving a Gold crest award. It was very gratifying to analyse positive results from an experiment I independently planned out. In addition, I had to give presentations to the class on my findings, which further developed my communication skills. I have read a couple books but often found them a bit outdated. However, I love reading nursing blogs. My favourite is nurse Nacole as she writes daily tips and podcasts. From my reading I've learnt that nursing is not just a job but also a profession filled with teamwork and determination. Being a senior prefect at school allowed me to lead and be a strong team player. This has shown me that a supportive team, in any role, is very important as collaboration is more effective. I've experienced this from working in retail when you need to come together at busy and demanding times to reach goals more successfully.

I've recently started working at a Salvation Army care home and it has reinforced my love for nursing. Working with the elderly has taught me that building a strong relationship with your patient is very important. In doing so, you build trust which positively impacts the outcome of their health. I enjoy tending to people's needs and I always stay calm and patient even when it's often stressful. I love how every day is slightly different and believe I am an asset there. I have learned how to write handovers and make them as descriptive as I can. This means that referring to them is more informative and the family is aware of the smaller things they do in their day which reassures that they're being well looked after. I've also shadowed an occupational therapist at the Kleinwort Centre in Haywards Heath for a couple weeks. I had to make phone calls to ambulances and carry out home visits which was very exciting.

When my little cousin was born, I found it endearing how he'd always have a little grin on his face. From this point, I realised that all I wanted to do was work with children. This was verified to me when I would accompany my mum to the primary school where she works. I volunteer at the Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital in Brighton. Working alongside nurses gives me an insight into what it'll be like in the future which truly excites me. The part I treasure most from volunteering is when you bring a smile to a child's face. It genuinely fills me with joy and find it awfully fulfilling. In my opinion, being an easy going and approachable person relaxes the children in unsettling circumstances.

As an individual, I am very organised and conscientious. I believe I'm right for this course as I'm extremely passionate. I'm eager to start and very optimistic about the future.

## PS Pharmacy

Studying pharmacy at university I believe will provide me with information and experience I need to develop my knowledge and understanding about the subject and combines what I enjoy, and my skills together.

Studying A level Chemistry has helped me develop a understanding around different chemical compounds. I particularly enjoy practical work, seeing different experiments and techniques used by chemists in real life. Creating multiple risk assessments as part of the practicals, has helped me understand safety measures and controls to prevent hazards. Aside from studying Chemistry A level, Whilst studying Biology A level I have really enjoyed learning about different body systems and how they work to keep the human body functioning in everyday life. I am taking part in the Biology Olympiad, exploring topics outside the A level Biology syllabus. Through Psychology A level we have looked at different studies and analysed what makes research scientific, as well as ethical issues and debates. I have attended an informative talk about animal testing which discussed matters such as whether animal testing should be banned, and current rules behind it. It was useful to me because I developed a clearer understanding on how new medicines are tested before human trialling can take place, and are then safe to use by patients. I undertook research where I found alternative methods to animal testing, such as companies using computer modelling software and human tissue. I think these methods will be used more in the future.

I have volunteered in my local pharmacy as I am passionate about learning about pharmacy and helping my community. From this experience, I gained lots of valuable insight into the requirements and skills needed by a pharmacist, and the role they play in the multidisciplinary team. I spoke with patients of different ages and backgrounds, this helped me gain and practice useful communication skills such as empathy, which allowed me to understand the patient's situation. I was introduced to different services provided by the pharmacy, for example blister packs for patients who have dementia or are prescribed lots of medicines they may forget, or find it difficult to use. I found volunteering and helping patients very rewarding and this has definitely been a big motivator in applying to pharmacy. I also had the opportunity to have a three-day placement in a medical centre observing different staff and processes which take place to provide patients with care they need. I the value of the teamwork between the pharmacist and different members of the healthcare team. I witnessed the journey of a prescription, talked to a clinical pharmacist, and found out how they can diagnose and prescribe medication to patients, as well as promoting health and disease prevention. Both experiences inspired me and taught me how to reflect on what I observed and grasp of what the job really consists.

In my spare time I like to play badminton as it helps me get rid of any stress and makes me feel more relaxed. This has directed me to manage and use the time I spend on extracurricular activities and academic life efficiently. I have also taken part in the National Citizen Service in which I worked in a team to renovate a community centre to help all age groups, holding an intergenerational event to raise money for charity. I gained many transferable skills working in a team such as being able to communicate ideas and listening to other team members to make decisions. This helped us complete our project successfully.

Overall, I believe I am an excellent candidate for pharmacy because I am motivated to achieving the best I can be and always look forward to broadening my knowledge in science. My work experience, alongside my commitment and motivation to my studies has helped me gain key skills I need in order to be a successful university student and I aspire to become a clinical pharmacist in the future.

## PS Pharmacy

I am excited at the prospect of studying towards an MPharm degree at university and a career in pharmacy. After extensive research and interest in the Royal Pharmaceutical Society Blog, I feel sure that pharmacy is the career choice that would allow me to combine my interest in organic chemistry and medicines, with my enthusiasm for healthcare and wellbeing, and enable me to play a vital role in my community.

A topic that sparked my interest in a career in pharmaceuticals was synaptic transmission and learning how neurotransmitters bind with receptors. I first came across this while studying for my GCSEs, and, captivated, I took it upon myself to discover more, gaining an understanding of the mechanism behind SSRIs. My interest in how these and other drugs have such a big impact on the human body only grew from there, influencing my decision to study biology and chemistry at A-Level in order to build on these fascinating ideas.

At college, I have particularly enjoyed lab practicals for Biology and Chemistry, especially those that allowed us to design our own framework, such as investigating the mass of iron in an iron tablet via a titration. Psychology has illustrated for me how medicines are deeply intertwined with social issues, and has demonstrated the diverse responsibilities that a pharmacist has in society. In order to take on more responsibility, I volunteered for the role of class representative for Biology and also took part in open evenings for the Chemistry department to voice my opinion as a student.

I have completed my Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award, involving a year-long commitment to a number of activities, such as a British Sign Language class which enabled me to build confidence and self-expression. This course put me in the position where I struggled to communicate with the hearing impaired members and therefore challenged me to think outside the box to find solutions, leaving me with a wider range of skills.

I regularly volunteer for the charity, Whoopsadaisy, which provides care and physiotherapy for children suffering from motor disorders. Working with severely disabled, non-verbal children requires a huge amount of patience and empathy, two traits that I have seen grow enormously in myself. After two years of volunteering, I am responsible for not only the children, but the newer volunteers too, advising and supporting them and giving them tips on activities to try.

Since 2019 I have been working as a lifeguard at a leisure centre, a position of responsibility where I am liable for the health and safety of the customers. Through my training and day to day work, I have enhanced the vital skills of efficiency and attention to detail, and I believe these transferrable skills are essential for a career in pharmacy. Working and volunteering alongside my studies has overall strengthened my time management and organisational skills leaving me feeling confident that I am well suited to the workload of higher education.

I have always thoroughly enjoyed being a student, experiencing a sense of pride over my meticulous notes and academic nature. When the government announced that formal A-Levels, which so many of my peers were dreading, would be cancelled, I was heartbroken. However, I made the best out of a bad situation and decided to put my time to good use, completing several short Open University courses including: "Drug development process: combating pain," and, "Birth of a drug." Here I learned to appreciate the difficulties of developing a medically suitable drug for clinical use and the need for a thorough understanding of biomedical processes. These advanced courses were challenging but also thoroughly enjoyable, giving me a taste of university learning and solidifying my desire to study Pharmacy.

## PS Philosophy

Philosophy has allowed me to think analytically about problems concerning social, political and existential issues. Using philosophical concepts and reasoning is essential for a critical outlook on contemporary problems of our world. I would relish the opportunity to study such an engaging and transferable subject at degree level.

I am particularly interested in ideas surrounding moral philosophy and ethical issues. In 'On Liberty', Mill offers ideas about euthanasia with a simple principle that "over his own body and mind, the individual is sovereign". I believe this a practical and appropriate view of many temporally relevant issues, such as abortion, an issue approached differently in various cultures. I found Peter Singer's argument in 'Practical Ethics' that a person in a coma, or someone otherwise incognisant, has no intrinsic value to their life to be particularly compelling in terms of justifying euthanasia, as it calls into question the largely accepted medical opinion towards assisted suicide in the UK. Studying determinism in Psychology helped me dispute our everyday perception of free will, and illuminate my understanding of theories. Contemporary philosopher Robert Kane's indeterminist approach claiming we are free only when we have "power to do otherwise" is intriguing. Another area of philosophy that has always appealed to me is the concept of the mind. Equally captivating and inexplicable, theories that explore the relationship between body and mind, such as Descartes', challenge the assumption that is rarely doubted: that our mind and bodies, firstly exist and, furthermore, coexist. Studying English Literature further refined my analytical essay writing and made me confident in interpreting a range of texts which is crucial for coherently and intellectually responding to philosophical theories.

In 2014, I attended Peter Vardy's 'Ethics Matters' lecture in London. His ideas about ethical issues sparked an interest for me in moral philosophy. Recently, I've attended a series of mini lectures and seminars on philosophy and humanities at Brighton University on topics that explored whose lives have value and why. I especially enjoyed the 'Black Lives Matter: Racism, resistance and representation' lecture as it related to the current political debate about black civil rights issues in the US, as it explored and criticised the inhuman treatment between races in modern day America. I am committed to widening my understanding and appreciation of different cultures. Whilst in Berlin in July 2015 I visited the Sachsenhausen Museum which was a concentration camp until 1945, which related to moral issues in philosophy such as the right to life. I'm looking forward to visiting Athens next year where so many influential philosophical texts by the likes of Plato were written.

For the last 3 years, I have regularly volunteered at Chiltern Open Air Museum where I organise and lead activities for young children and adults. This, whilst being enjoyable, has allowed me to gain experience with communicating and compromising with people in groups. Growing up, I had the opportunity to watch several of Shakespeare's plays performed in the Globe Theatre, including one of my favourites, As You Like It, which has set the precedent for my love of literature and written communication. At college, I currently run weekly sessions at Feminist Society, where we debate current issues as a large group. This has given me the opportunity to gain confidence when articulating arguments and perfect my leadership skills.

Philosophy is versatile in that it encompasses logic and pragmatism with creativity, and with philosophical ideas and dialogues written over two thousand years ago still relevant to debate today. My interest for this subject only grows. Philosophy has gifted me a wider and wiser perspective on important issues and I continue to enjoy meeting the demands of the challenging and, in turn, rewarding study of philosophy.

## PS Politics

Politics, and particularly international politics fascinate me, especially after my experiences studying Politics A Level. Trips such as a college excursion to the European Parliament have only cemented this interest.

Studying Politics, English Literature and Media Studies at A Level has given me a highly beneficial scepticism and ability to analyse the world around me. Politics especially furthering my understanding of political institutions, and the relations between those institutions. My decision to take Global Politics in the second year has allowed my understanding of international institutions to deepen further. Going through the entirety of the UK's political system has meant an in-depth exploration of institutions such as the role of the House of Commons, and wherein Sovereignty lies. Independent study I have undertaken in these subjects, principally English, has allowed me to spend a substantial amount of time outside the classroom; Researching, contextualising and discovering different facets (faucet is a sink tap ☹️) of these subjects which I can bring into my work at College. These studies also mean I am consistently independent studying both at home and outside of college so developing my work ethic and interest in these subjects. Within my English Studies I have also learnt substantial amounts about structuring essays and analysis of texts, skills which will be invaluable at degree level. Texts I have studied such as 'King Lear' has relevance to modern international politics, with Marcus Gilmer comparing President Trump's first cabinet meeting as similar to the opening of King Lear. Similarly, in Media the study of newspapers and their effects on domestic and global politics increases my understanding and aptitude for the study of politics at a higher level.

In 2017 I ran into a hurdle, a decision to take the wrong A Levels. As much as I had enjoyed and achieved in Computing, Maths and Physics at GCSE level: The A Level iterations weren't for me. This meant a restart at college in September 2018, allowing me a six-month development period where I redefined who I am outside of college. I learnt to drive, passing my test first time, as well as learning the guitar. Crucially I climbed the corporate ladder at my part time employment, progressing from a children's party supervisor to the Swim England (ASA) Qualified Swimming Teacher position I hold today. This development hasn't been restricted to this semi-gap-year however. Recently I have been fully involved training for the Beachy Head Marathon in October 2019 for which I am also fundraising; as well as teaching myself Spanish. Within my teaching profession I teach children to swim from age three to thirteen, meaning a broad ability and numerous different skill sets which I have used to adapt my lessons. This broad range of ability means extreme enthusiasm on my part when a student graduates from my classes or finally achieves a certain skill.

In terms of super curricular, I am a member of the Model UN society at my college, representing numerous different countries on a range of fascinating international issues such as extradition, and reparations for colonialism. At every opportunity I go on college trips, a recent example being to the European Parliament in Brussels where I engaged in a feisty QnA with a couple of MEP's on current Political issues and their former statements about these issues.

I'm passionate about studying Politics or International politics, knowing it will be fulfilling and fascinating constantly. This degree will aid me in pursuing a job in a supranational organisation such as the UN or employment as a diplomat or ambassador



## PS Politics

During a lecture on rethinking humanitarian response to crises of mass displacement, Dr Tahir Zaman from The University of Sussex, stated that the 28 billion dollars spent on aid worldwide is the same size as the chewing gum market. I was shocked that so little is spent on something as important and complex as aid. The richest man in the world, Jeff Bezos has a net worth of \$184 billion, yet 1.3 billion people live on \$1 a day. The disparity throughout the world of people's access to basic healthcare, education, food and housing inspired me to want to study Politics and International Relations. Politics dictates the world we live in. In these turbulent times COVID has changed every aspect of our world and the decisions our government makes can literally cost lives. I realise my future will be defined by politics and the dynamic of relations between countries; I do not want to be complicit and with my degree in Politics and International Relations I can be part of the next generation promoting change. Studying geography has given me insight into the world of international relations from topics such as water insecurity to globalisation and the rise of the BRICS. In my independent investigation I carried out research into a community led market, based on the Egan Wheel Theory, used to evaluate the success of sustainable communities. Interviews with local business owners highlighted the conflicting views on the politics of how the space was run; a microcosm of the society we live in. The power imbalance felt by the owners of shops and stalls equates to the anger of the British public towards the government and the disparity between the richest 1% and the rest of the country. Studying Chemistry and Biology I have developed an analytical view of the world around me and an ability to view how systems work with their intrinsic parts. When there is a problem it is probably due to a small part of the system breaking down creating a domino effect, e.g. in developing countries, a lack of sexual education and healthcare will lead to a high rate of infant mortality and teenage pregnancy. My EPQ, 'How can Aid be beneficial to the receiving country', helped me to develop essential planning and essay writing skills and extensive knowledge into the fragile politics of giving and receiving aid. To further my knowledge, I attended lectures at my college and The University of Sussex, this broadened my awareness on topics outside the constraints of my subjects. I have read numerous books on politics and international relations e.g. 'The White Man's Burden' by William Easterly, which highlighted the many failings of the West in the development of poor countries. My week's experience at Royal Trinity Hospice London, gave me an insight into how a hospice supports patients and those in the community with a minimal amount of NHS funding and the remainder reliant on fundraising. For two years I volunteered at a Chestnut Tree Hospice charity shop which has given me essential organisational and communication skills. During the initial lockdown, I volunteered at Civil Society Consulting, a charity who provide non-profit consulting for other charities; there I carried out research for a project for the NHS and Mind investigating why new mothers were not accessing postnatal NHS mental health services. This gave me invaluable experience into how larger charities work and how important it is for organisations to give a voice to those who may not be heard. Currently, I am working for a new charity called Primary Space, which host STEM related activities to educate all primary school children. Through helping to set up the charity I have gained knowledge into how the government relies on charities to carry out essential work within society. Studying politics and international relations at degree level would give me an unprecedented opportunity to help make change in a constantly evolving world.

## PS Politics

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Studying Politics, English Literature and Media Studies at A Level has given me a highly beneficial scepticism and ability to analyse the world around me. Politics, especially furthering my understanding of political institutions and relations between institutions, has been extremely interesting. My decision to take Global Politics in A2 has allowed my understanding to broaden and deepen understanding of institutions for example, the role of the House of Commons and wherein Sovereignty lies.

In my second year I decided to take Global Politics as my net component, therefore enhancing my ability and understanding of International Institutions, Supranational Institutions and complex processes such as Globalisation, all of which I find particularly fascinating given my interest in International Relations. Independent study from these subjects, principally English, allows me to spend a substantial amount of time outside of the classroom: Researching, contextualising and discovering different facets of these subjects which I can then bring into my work at College. These studies also mean I am consistently studying at home and outside of college so developing my work ethic and interest in these subjects. Within my English Studies I have also learnt substantial amounts about structuring essays and analysis of texts, skills which will be valuable at degree level. The texts I study such as 'King Lear' has relevance to modern international politics, with Marcus Gilmer comparing President Trump's first cabinet meeting as similar to the opening of King Lear. Similarly, in Media the study of newspapers and their effects on domestic and global politics increases my understanding and aptitude for the study of politics at a higher level.

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I'm passionate about studying Politics or International politics, knowing it will be ful-filling and fascinating constantly. This degree will aid me in pursuing a job in a supranational organisation such as the UN or a Job as a diplomat or ambassador.

## **PS Politics and philosophy**

Politics and philosophy are in my opinion critical frameworks for understanding and explaining many events we experience in the world today. I am really keen to continue to study both as they seem to me to compliment each other in so many ways.

The discussion of philosophical problems is what enables us as humans to develop both socially and politically through enhanced understanding of ourselves and the world around us. I believe the study of ancient as well as modern philosophies is enhanced greatly by an engaged and coherent involvement in the politics of today. In particular, great questions of ethical behaviours and the role of the individual in society are fundamental to deeply analysing and understanding politics.

It wasn't until studying philosophy at A level that I felt the genuine thrill at the complexity of any subject matter when studied under the philosophical microscope, helping me develop a higher level of analytical thinking. I have loved looking at our everyday lives through the lense of the philosophers.

Philosophy inspires us to challenge the constraints of society that are tacitly taken to be true by most of the wider population. Albert Camus' 'the Rebel' deals with the reasons why man rebels – 'revolt is one of the essential dimensions' of mankind. I find works such as these that challenge our regular ways of thinking, and take a deeper look into the impact of individual philosophies on politics of the day fascinating.

After recently attending a university panel concerning the on-going conflict in Syria, and reading Robin Yassin-Kassab and Leila Al-Shami's 'Burning Country', I was stunned by the seeming lack of interaction between our moral standard as a UK democracy and political decisions made, despite human suffering that has taken place in Syria. This cross-over of events of the modern world of politics, and applied ethics of the western world, is one I find relevant, pressing and extremely interesting.

My extended project at A-level looked at whether Italian Mafias could be considered ethical. The work I did into this area enabled me to intertwine meta-ethics with political and sociological issues tied to organised crime in one debate. The project helped me to develop my skills in terms of organisation and self-motivation, whilst also whetting my appetite for this style of writing and independent research I hope to further develop at undergraduate level. It was my work experience, acting as a shadow for a legal director in the Ministry of Justice that particularly motivated my interest and involvement in politics. Attending some of the debates on gay marriage in the Lords and Commons leading up to the passing of the Equal Marriage Act, I felt compelled to have more of an active involvement in UK politics. Since then have canvassed for both local and general elections as well as the EU referendum.

Since studying American politics at A-level I have become a regular New York Times reader as well as subscriber to the Washington post's daily 202 alongside my following of international news through news stations such as Al-jazeera. I feel it is important to view various news sources in order to have an objective and up to date opinion. The U.S election of 2016 has underlined the role played by Facebook and false news coverage.

I have been swimming regularly as part of a club since age 11 and have recently started kickboxing and would be keen to continue with both at university. I am also an active member of the Feminist Society in Brighton, as well as Amnesty International and have attended meetings held by Caroline Lucas among others at my college.

I have taken this year out of education in order to travel South East Asia where I will spend a month volunteering in a school in India set up by my family. I feel that by applying later to university, and taking this year to widen my experiences, I can begin my studies at university with a better and wider understanding of the world.<sup>3972</sup>

## PS Politics

Coming from a politically active family I was always predisposed to have a lasting interest in politics. This blossomed during GCSE Citizenship Studies which gave me an introduction into British Politics, Law and Society and choosing my current A levels was a natural progression towards studying subjects I deeply enjoyed. I would like to pursue a career in International Relations because I am fascinated by the affairs which prompt political decision-making, the repercussions of such decisions and how this process operates and impacts on the world-stage.

When studying Sociology I was most intrigued by the concept of social inequality, specifically Marxist and Feminist theories of injustice. Sociology has provided access to a multitude of ideas, theories and explanations about how we behave as individuals in society and how these behaviours ultimately influence political decision making and consequently the formation of law in contemporary Britain.

In **L**aw I was passionate about studying criminal law and injustices in the English legal system, especially those regarding controversial issues such as euthanasia and foeticide. I have particularly enjoyed participating in group discussions and exploring the 'grey area' which arises in debate, a strong feature in each of my subjects. I love to critically analyse and assess situations, decisions and beliefs in order to further develop my understanding, and continually challenge and develop my own personal beliefs and principles.

I have enjoyed studying each subject, but my love of politics has far outweighed the others. I have revelled in the comparative analysis of different political systems, discovering alternative political ideologies and examining them in the context of contemporary political events.

I feel that my current studies have provided me with a firm foundation in the skills required for this course; they demand critical thinking and analysis, empirical research and the ability to construct effective arguments; skills which I continue to develop and improve. I have discovered the importance and value of group discussion and debate, which I find both immensely enjoyable and rewarding.

Ultimately I could see myself working in the field of Human Rights, but feel studying International Relations would provide the best foundation and experience before specializing in this area. My interests in politics extend beyond the classroom; I am politically active, supporting causes in which I believe and I keep up-to-date on political developments at home and abroad.

On a more personal level, I am passionate about music and love to listen to a variety of genres. I enjoy sharing music with others. I have a strong sense of adventure and love to travel; I relish the opportunity to discover new places, try different languages and be immersed in other cultures.

Being a Peer Mentor, School Prefect and volunteering have enabled me to develop and refine my interpersonal skills. I feel one of the most influential events which has impacted upon my character has been my voluntary work in Ghana in 2017. This was particularly challenging as the selection process was tough, I worked hard to earn a place and self-funded the majority of my costs. This experience was rewarding beyond all expectations, it gave me a better understanding of myself; my strengths and limitations; it taught me resilience, team-building and leadership. This relatively brief immersion in an entirely different culture and less economically developed country had a profound effect on me. It was an intense experience which gave rise to questions about society, justice and inequality and I developed a deep-seated passion to make a difference.

## PS PPE

In the current, turbulent political climate the study of politics, philosophy and economics seems ever more important. To gain a firm and developed sense of how we might tackle and find solutions to any or all the world's problems must be desirable.

In terms of Economics, my A grade at A level taught me about the application of theory to real life scenarios. For example, it has been interesting to grapple with the concept that there might not always be market solutions to meet public need. Michael Sandel is particularly eloquent with his examples in this book, 'What Money Can't buy: The Moral Limits of Markets.' Maybe add an example from the book? Mathematics has always been a subject I have enjoyed as it combines logical reasoning with precision and often creative solutions. My ability to use Maths would undoubtedly be of good use in the study of PPE.

Philosophy is not a subject I have formally studied at school or college. I have, however, been reading around the subject independently. For example, 'The History of Western Philosophy' by Bertrand Russell is interesting in how it conveys the different ways of thinking and the evolution of logic and argument through history. Sandel's lectures on Justice are compelling and I have learning much on his discussion of John Stuart Mills and the meaning of justice. In addition, I have listened to philosophy podcasts on individual philosophers. It is interesting to learn how the works and philosophies of individuals can affect the thinking of future generations; such as the influence of John Locke on modern day politics.

My interest in Politics must be explained by the massive importance of how politics is shaping our society and the world. On a daily basis we are exposed to news from all corners of the world and my hunger for a more advanced understanding of how political thought, action and policy shape our lives is an important part of my motivation. New technologies and social media clearly play an increasingly important role in the format of politics and how politicians lead and or mislead in the form of soundbites rather than carefully thought through policy decisions. Both economic and philosophical understanding are required to help shape political thought.

Outside education, I have been involved in music from a young age. I have studied classical guitar from the age of 6, and play drums too. Six years ago, I joined a band which has stuck together. We have developed our own music and now play gigs in Lewes, Brighton and, recently, in a showcase in Manchester. Being in a band is both creative and fun but to progress it demands team work, commitment, problems solving and critical thinking. We have to determine where and when we rehearse. We have to arrange our gigs and the logistics of how we get there with our equipment. We must edit our own material and arrange our own songs. We have developed some merchandise of our own and have a presence on Sound Cloud. Each of these skills will prove useful at University as each will be required to successfully study at University level.

My work experience includes being a Kumon Assistant and helping support the Maths and English teaching of younger pupils. I have undertaken bar work at events such as Brighton Pride, and I am currently working in a Fish and chip restaurant in Brighton serving customers whilst ensuring a clean and tidy environment. Currently I am saving my earnings in order to travel through Eastern Europe and South East Asia later in the year before starting my university studies.

I am ready and committed to study at a higher level. I look forward to both the challenges and rewards of higher education and studying a combined degree interests and stimulates me.....

## PS Primary Education

From educating my class of 'build-a-bears' at home to screaming orders at fellow classmates at lunchtimes in the library, it has been my desire to pursue a career in Primary Education. A couple of years ago, my childhood fantasy became a real ambition upon reading 'Teachers plant the seeds of knowledge that will grow forever' on a card my stepmother was given by one of her students. This quote reinforced my belief in the importance of education, and the ability to teach children fundamental skills they will use for life. A gift I aspire to possess.

Psychology A-level has provided me with highly relevant knowledge in a classroom environment. Social influences show behaviour can be dependent on conformity and social support. Psychopathology demonstrates how behaviour can be influenced by classical and operant conditioning. Understanding how a child's 'negative' behaviour may be as a result of psychological influences means I can support them to alter their behaviour. I strongly believe a healthy state of mind is vital in order to make good educational progress. Allowing children to express themselves is extremely important. Whilst undertaking part-time work for "Arty Rascals", (creative and sensory experiences for children aged 0-10 years), I have seen how art therapy allows children to release merely by putting on an apron for a few hours. Studying Drama and Theatre Studies has increased my confidence and furthered my ability to project my voice; both necessary qualities to control a class of children. Whilst assisting at 'Stagecoach', one of Brighton's performing arts schools, I led warm ups and supported the teacher in being inclusive, managing behaviour and comforting children aged 4-6 years. From this I have observed the positive impact that singing, acting and dancing has on increasing children's confidence and self-esteem.

Every Tuesday undertake work experience with Year Two at a local Infant and Nursery school. I always leave having learnt something completely new about primary education; the challenges presented, different working methods and teacher's techniques. Work experience has given me a real insight into the demands of being a teacher, allowing me to observe the reality of the classroom. I have learnt patience is one of the most necessary qualities when dealing with distracting students. I've observed the teacher calmly removing students from a lesson, creating a space for the child to think, then bringing them back in after having a conversation and reintegrating them with the class with a new approach. My favorite activity so far has been supporting a child one-to-one listening to them read, helping when they're struggling, but watching their smile grow as they get to the exciting part of their book. My strongest quality is enthusiasm. The children get easily frustrated when they can't work out the words, but with encouragement, they carry on swiftly. This experience has allowed me to appreciate the importance of these formative years at primary school, which in turn has fired my motivation to become a teacher.

I work part-time at a laser tag center hosting children's birthday parties. Being a party host is exciting yet exhausting. I have learnt to multitask; Being routinely interrupted whilst simultaneously maintaining control and, comforting a crying child who fears the dark. Leadership is key to being successful in enthusing and caring for the children. I have a specialism too. For deaf customers, I am able to provide British Sign Language communication support, I have a Level Two certificate in British Sign Language, in addition to the fact that I have close family who are Deaf and sign language users.

I have the drive and skills required to succeed in Primary Education Studies, and after completing this degree, with a specialism in ages 3-7, I hope to make my goal of teaching in a primary school a reality.

I am excited at the opportunity to study psychology at degree level and particularly interested in how early experience impacts on later psychological and physical development. Through psychological interventions like CBT and psychodynamic therapy we can understand the effect the past has on our present lives, and make active decisions to change our way of thinking. We can come to separate what is no longer useful to us, understand what belongs to the past, and what therefore belongs to the present. This enables us to helpfully make positive choices in the present, no longer attached to past ways of coping.

I have an interest in educational psychology. I have mild dyslexia and found being taught by a trained psychologist, with in-depth understanding of my difficulty, enabled me to learn much more effectively. Understanding the need for me to process information, going over each lesson on the same day I was taught it, helped me to gain adequate confidence within academic work. I was awarded 'Most Resilient Student' by BHASVIC biology department due to my determination and positive attitude when working under-pressure. Thus I have first-hand experience of the positive impact of a psychologist's knowledge in helping people to reach their potential in education.

I am also interested in psychological research in areas such as dementia. My grandmother was diagnosed with dementia two years ago. Psychological research has helped me understand the cause and I make a conscious effort to not ask my grandma questions about recent events, as this information is hard for her to recall, but ask her questions about what happened to her a long time ago. I studied different types of memory which has helped me to understand why my grandma is able to remember and sing a song she learnt many years ago, despite the loss of her short term memory.

English literature helped me improve my writing skills and focus on understanding human behaviour through in-depth analysis of characters. I enjoyed Jeanette Winterson's book "Why Be Happy When You Could Be Normal?" Where she discusses her own traumatic childhood experiences, and how this has shaped her future relationships with others.

Through practical biology lab experiments I have developed skills working scientifically and mathematically. I am aware of the importance of accurate measurements and have seen how one anomalous result due to inaccurate measurements can affect the overall calculation. One topic that particularly sparked my interest was inheritance; how genetic information is copied and passed on to daughter cells broadening my understanding in psychology of how certain mental health issues are passed down from generation to generation in condition for example such as schizophrenia.

I have developed strong professional and trusting relationship with families through my work as a childminder and I am particularly interested in autism, having worked with a child with mild autism over 3 years. I have come to understand the importance of being sensitive to his particular needs such as finding means of making contact without direct eye contact or touch. I also believe I have good organisational skills. I have been working as an assistant administrator for Southvine Ltd, a local psychotherapy service which has been rewarding.

I have a particular interest in Drama. This year, alongside working, I have been attending a level 3 diploma in Acting. I have found that the key to acting is being empathic and stepping inside the shoes of a character which I believe is a fundamental characteristic for any psychologist.

After having taken a gap year I feel that I am committed and ready to take a further step in my education and study psychology at a higher level, with all the rewards and challenges that it will bring.

## PS Psychology

Psychology has helped me to recognise how both my genetics and upbringing play a role in influencing my own behaviour and beliefs.

My first introduction to psychology was through my mum and her work as a psychotherapist, I then chose to study the subject at GCSE level. Initially I became interested in psychology through comparing and weighing up the arguments of different theories. Over time this fascination went further and began to help me understand the scientific nature of psychology, as theories are often based on studies or evidence. Through understanding the scientific nature of the subject; my critical thinking skills and knowledge of mathematics have developed and become more sophisticated.

Whilst studying **A-level** psychology, gender became one of my favourite topics. This initial fascination came through my interest in feminism and understanding of gender in society that I had learnt through studying sociology. I have also read a number of books about the impact of gender on an individual. One of the books I read was *Living Dolls* by Natasha Walter which explores hyper sexualisation of women in society, taking a liberal feminist position. She takes the nurture side of the debate on gender, arguing that this is down to culture and not biology. Walter believes that these false ideas about gender differences can have real consequences in terms of behaviour and the successes of males and females in society; limiting both women and men. Studying psychology gave me space to question my initial idea that gender is largely learnt as we explored the nature-nurture debate. The topic of gender explained the biological basis, for example the role of hormones and chromosomes, as well as social psychological explanations. I found this particularly fascinating when exploring gender identity disorder as this challenged my belief that gender is mostly impacted by society. It should not be ignored that factors such as the media and social expectations of each sex do shape how we view gender. However studying GID and exploring the role of testosterone and oestrogen through scientific research have given me a wider view of the topic.

I have recently had experience at working in a local school for children with special needs. Through working with these children I have been challenged in the way I communicate and tackle different situations. Some of the children I worked with were non verbal and physically disabled which I initially found difficult to navigate. However after spending time working with them in the classroom I felt much more able to connect with the students. I also learnt a new technique of communicating called intensive interaction which uses techniques similar to those at the early stages of development. I found this **lined up** with my studies into attachment that I had learnt during the psychology A-level course. The communication methods appeared to mirror what I had learnt about reciprocity and interactional synchrony, as the student would initiate a sound or movement, and the teacher would imitate this behaviour.

This experience has taught me more about the effects of learning difficulties, and the impact it has on behaviour through observing interactions with other students and teachers, as well as being an active participant.

Psychology has provided me with opportunities to question my own beliefs and remain open minded when exploring the possibilities of different theories. I have no doubt that my willingness to be open, as well as my ability to study and act independently or within a group will help me to get the most out of my studies at university. I believe a university setting will provide an environment of people eager to explore ideas offering the diversity of their upbringings.

I am excited to explore the key ideas of psychology at further depth as well as be exposed to a range of new topics at university.



## PS Psychology

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## **PS Social Work**

I am applying to study Social Work to make a difference to the lives of others, and potentially those considered the most vulnerable in our society. My motivation to qualify as a Social Worker developed through working with vulnerable children within a special needs school. I have done so since age fifteen as a voluntary placement, and since September 2016, as a Teaching Assistant. I have always known I wanted to pursue a career characterised by a caring and nurturing role. In addition to the knowledge and experience I have gained to date, this degree will expand my capability to assist others when difficult times and experiences impact their lives. Post-graduation, my goal is to specialise in children and family services.

Working with children full-time for the last 18 months has helped me refine my communication skills. I am required to work with children of different ages and backgrounds and therefore I have to adjust the way I speak and give instructions. Additionally, I have had direct experience working with children and families as a supportive figure to both parent and child during difficult and stressful times. Developing skills of active listening means I am engaged and reflective on a conversation with a child (or parent) in order for them to feel understood, allowing me to build up a confiding and trusting relationship.

Similarly, I am very empathetic and sensitive towards others. Without empathy and understanding, I would not have been able to help children in crisis find solutions in difficult times whilst balancing known information and reading between the lines. Children and family relationships can be complex, needing help in multiple aspects of their lives. I have found being able to consider solutions on my feet, and thinking critically and creatively is the most effective way to help both parent and child.

Being the main staff member responsible for managing a child's multiple medical needs has helped me understand the importance of clear and transparent communication within an organisation. Networking with multi-disciplinary professions within one setting requires much organisation, and an ability to prioritise tasks according to the urgency of a child's needs. Through this experience, I am able to demonstrate ability to communicate both written and verbally. For example, documenting care plans and records of medicine. On the contrary, I have been able to voice concerns in a professional and constructive manner.

Working with a range of children from different cultural backgrounds has helped me become responsive to differences groups in society, such as social and ethnic communities, in a respectful and open way.

My role is emotionally challenging which demonstrates commitment and dedication. However, it has helped me understand that in order to do my job to a high standard, I have to take care of myself emotionally and mentally to ensure I am more effective providing support for children and parents I work with. I find it helpful to set boundaries between myself and my work, seek support from friends and family and having a hobby helps create a healthy work-life balance.

At college I studied complimentary A Level subjects for this course; Law, Health and Social Care and Sociology. Studying Health and Social taught me key themes within social work such as discrimination, equality, diversity and duty of care. It helped me to understand key elements of legislation such as its aims and purpose and how the needs of service users from a range of backgrounds can be fulfilled through different approaches towards care. Other studies developed my independence, self discipline and organisation to meet strict deadlines. As well as this, engaging in debates helped me to become analytical and able to take theories and implement them into practice.

With the knowledge and experience I have gained to date, this degree will only expand my capability to assist others when difficult times and experiences impact their lives. 3998

## PS Sociology

My interests lie very closely to the world we live in today; I love observing how we communicate and express ourselves to others and how we do, and don't, work together in society. Sociology has provided my access to a multitude of ideas, theories and explanations about how we behave as individuals and social groups. How children are socialised by peer's influence and their behaviour at a young age can influence them for the rest of their life. Studying this area further would provide details and answer questions about aspects of human behaviour and society that fascinate me. My personal experience of learning British Sign Language as young child has developed my awareness of the importance of communication, the fundamental importance of language, how it builds and develops relationships, and how inclusive it can be. Without communication, we become outsiders, creating a disadvantage for individuals within society who feel excluded, or unable to participate in society. I would love to continue studying Sociology, Communications or Media at university as I would like to discover a more in-depth detail of today's society. I feel it would develop me as a person and help me become more assertive within my own identity in the world we live in. From my degree, I would like to be able to use the elements I have learnt in modern society, participate in research and continue this into working life. I hope in the future to work as a BSL interpreter. A better understanding of identity and cultural diversity would enable me to build positive relationships with individuals, and groups of people who often feel excluded from society.

Studying Child Development GCSE instigated an interest in behavior and society I chose to pursue at A level. Sociology provided me an insight as to how primary socialization can impact a child's life, and the influence of family can lead one into a certain lifestyle. It showed me the inequalities we face in today's world and how we are challenged by society as individuals. English Literature and Language gave me a broader idea of how language allows us to understand one another, how emotions are portrayed and given. I have enjoyed learning about language such as persuasive techniques, and the influence and power of language. I find it fascinating how modern pieces of writing compare with classical novels, and society's perception over time. Studying both literature and language exposed me to a wider variety of techniques, allowing me to have a greater understanding of language within society.

I have always been driven, reliable and efficient with my studies, as well as my working life. I work part time in retail. I find there can be a pressure to perform at a high level. I have managed to be efficient balancing work and school life, always meeting deadlines and achieving respectable results. In secondary school, I went became head girl. I was able to balance this role with studies due to my organisation skills, whilst undertaking a part time job and succeeding in my studies. I have just finished my Level 2 British Sign Language course, by doing this I have been able to gain more confidence communicating to others, it has also made me mature as I have been able to step outside my comfort zone and work in an adult setting.

In secondary school, I loved performing, building friendships, musical theatre and dance. I continued my passion for musical theatre and have achieved Grade 7 musical theatre singing. I gained most of my confidence from performing, which has encouraged me to be compassionate, motivated and consistent. I enjoy taking time for myself and have taken up yoga and mindfulness. These activities develop open mindedness, a positive outlook on life and being supportive to others. I hope that university opens up new opportunities for me, which will allow me to continue my passion for BSL in the future.

## PS Spanish

The Spanish language has long been compelling to me, primarily, because it is so widely spoken, and therefore would allow communication in so many countries, especially in South and Central America, as it is a region which fascinates me. It always struck me as strange that someone would choose to study another modern foreign language other than Spanish, due to its utility and furthermore its elegance. I would like to study Spanish at degree level to extend my knowledge of the language which I have learnt by studying at A-level in order to achieve fluency, and additionally to broaden my grasp of Hispanic culture. When thinking about what course to combine Spanish with, Portuguese seemed like the obvious choice, as it naturally accompanies the Spanish language and I really want to learn more about the lesser known but nonetheless rich history of Portugal and its ties with Brazil. My initial interest in the Hispanic world was sparked by my enthralment at a young age with Mesoamerican civilizations such as the Aztecs and Mayans - the utterly different and in some ways brutal manner in which these civilizations operated, combined with the exotic setting of Central and South America left me awe-struck. My studies of the social issues in the modern Hispanic world at A level, such as LGBT rights, and the way in which they are represented in film and literature, such as the acclaimed director Pedro Almodovar's film 'Volver' led me to want to delve deeper into Hispanic culture. My study of the tumultuous political history of many Hispanic countries, such as Franco's dictatorship in Spain, helped me to understand how many aspects of Spanish culture have arrived at where they are today, and furthermore kindle my curiosity of the Lusophone world and Portugal's colonial influence on Brazil. I gained further insight into the Spanish civil war when I read 'Homage to Catalonia' by George Orwell, in which I enjoyed his perspective as someone fighting in the war. In addition, my independent research on the history of 'El Clasico' improved my understanding of the social complexities that exist in Spain which have been somewhat manifested in football culture. The family holiday to Costa Rica which I was lucky enough to go to in 2017 was incredible, and one of my first immersive experiences in Hispanic culture in which I tried to use my Spanish skills wherever possible. I was thrilled by conversing with someone in their own foreign language, and it inspired me to continue to pursue languages. My work experience at a hotel helped me to appreciate the value of effective communication and allowed me to develop my listening skills when interacting with customers, which I think has improved my language skills. I am a keen footballer - I used to play at county level. Football has taught me a lot, such as the importance of teamwork, leadership and above all perseverance. Additionally, I have taught myself to play the guitar at a good standard; I think that the skills needed to play a musical instrument or a sport are largely transferable to the study of languages- you will almost always see a positive correlation between the amount of practice you put in and your corresponding capabilities. Overall, I am driven to study Spanish and Portuguese at university, as I will be developing the invaluable skills of learning at least two foreign languages, which will leave me with not just a degree for employability, but the tools to unlock a different culture. I am ready and committed to studying at a higher level and I hope you will consider my application.

## PS Sport

Sport has always been my number one priority growing up. Living an active lifestyle has driven me to want to pursue a career in physical activity. Selecting sport science was always going to be an easy choice for my university education because I have always been intrigued by how the body responds to different lifestyles, and how this can affect people's every day lives and deter or improve a person's performance in activity. Although I have always wanted to study sport further, it was not until last year in my first year of college that I knew exactly what my end goal was to be. I was inspired by a sports therapist who gave a speech about his job, and what it entailed, this is when I really gauged what I wanted to do in my life. I was fascinated as he told us how he had taken professional athletes who had serious injuries into rehabilitation and worked with them to return them to the highest fitness level. Taking on the role as a sports therapist as it would give me great satisfaction, aiding athletes through their road to recovery, coming out the other end when they are back where they belong. I have already started to take steps in the right direction by securing a job at my local sports centre. I originally had a week's work experience placement at this location in year 10 in which they were very impressed with my hard work and dedication to my role, and interest generally in sports. I was later rewarded by being asked to apply for the vacant job role in the early months of 2016. I went through a long and robust interview process in which I impressed the manager of the centre and was successfully selected for the position. In my role I help run sports events such as bubble football, a children's holiday club, and other basic cleaning and maintenance jobs around the centre.

At BHASVIC I currently study Sports Science ( BTEC level 3 ) and Business studies ( A level ). Sport science I thoroughly enjoy. My most stimulating aspects of the course are learning about different types of injuries that can occur during physical activity, and how these injuries repair naturally or with the assistance of healthcare. I find this fascinating because of the way the body responds and how we ourselves can assist the recovery of these problems, directly linked to sports therapy. I am also highly interested in anatomy and physiology. It is remarkable how different bodily systems work together to allow for different movements and actions that are taken for granted. I believe that my business studies course will really benefit my future plans because it would provide me with the knowledge and skills to assist setting my own sports therapist practice. It has also helped me with time management and meeting deadlines and understanding the wider world.

Through the sport centre I will shortly undertake a first aid training course and this year at college I have enrolled on a level 2 Fitness Instructing course. I am part of a local Sunday league county football team called Saltdean United, which includes the under 18's team and men's second team. I also represent our college in our very successful college football team.

I am on the widening participation scheme at college as no one as in my family has studied at university and I am proud to be in a position where I have worked hard to have the opportunity to apply to Higher Education. University is a very important stepping stone in my aspirations of becoming a sports therapist and a degree in Sport Science will help me fulfil my to study in depth how the body works , different types of injuries and how to treat the athlete physically and physiologically. Injuries can really affect the thinking of an athlete and prevent them from going back to the standard and level they were once competing at and reach their full potential. I am personally motivated and committed to studying at a higher level and willing to work hard to achieve my goals.

## PS Sport

Sport has always been an integral part of my life. This includes studying the different aspects of sport, playing at a high level and coaching in the local community. In my year out I have developed my knowledge of sports science, particularly how your body adapts to different training methods and the different theories attached to this. From the knowledge that I have gained, I have applied these principles and theories to my own training and others.

Playing and being involved in sport has been a passion throughout my life. I have played sports at a high level and have achieved many personal and team goals, within and outside of education. Some of these include; playing for Three Bridges FC in the Ryman league where I was voted players and managers player in 2018/19, being in the Sussex cricket set up throughout my youth, captaining my club through multiple age groups and being the highest run scorer across all teams for my club at the age of 17. This has helped develop my communication, leadership and teamwork skills. During my school and college career I captained the cricket team for 3 consecutive years where we reached the nation cup quarter finals. I also reached the national cup semi-final with my college football team. Competing at multiple different levels in different sports has intensified my desire to improve my own performance and that of others, by applying sporting knowledge. Being able to study sport science will further my knowledge on the human anatomy and biomechanics, which will improve my performance and help me to achieve further sporting success. I have also enjoyed volunteering for many years at Steyning cricket and football club which has involved coaching and marking out pitches which has enabled me to give back to the local community

I studied GCSE PE at school and achieved a D/D\* in the Diploma of Sport at college. These subjects have increased my interest in the application of physiology into practical uses, and has provided me with an insight into how sport physiology can improve performance. I studied A Level Sociology where we learnt about how society interlinks with sport and the impact sport has on society, such as the influence that public school sport has on developing societies across the world. This course helped me to develop my analytical skills with regard to the different theories and helped develop my essay writing skills.

Outside education I enjoy studying and researching different types of training methods and principles, such as the work of Ross Edgley and by attending the muscles mentors seminars, which look at the science behind nutrition, training and how professional athletes use these different types of training to help improve performance. From this research I have gained knowledge which has helped me create my own personalised training plan and also create them for other athletes, to help improve their performance. This has furthered my interest in sport science and will help me to create more personalised training and nutrition programs. Being able to study sport science will improve my understanding of nutrition and biomechanics which will help me achieve my goal of becoming a fully qualified personal trainer.

I have worked at my local sports club since I was 16. During my gap year I have been taken on as a full-time assistant bar manager. This role has helped develop my life skills; and my communication skills, which will benefit me at university. Also, working during this time added new challenges due to Covid for example, educating customers and enforcing government guidelines. I believe the year gap has enabled me to develop my skills through work, research and training. I now believe that I have the passion to study sports science at university and embrace the challenge. I will be able to develop further as a person and gain valuable insight into the science of sport which will enable me to fulfil my desire to be involved in sport in my future career.

## PS Sport

Sport is, and has been, the most important thing in my life since starting secondary school. As soon as I started playing basketball, my goals for life and my focus became clear to me. I went from playing from the school basketball team to playing for Brighton Cougars at county league level, onto playing at a national league level for Worthing Thunder and then at regional level for South East England at the ages of u15s and u17s. My love for basketball, desire to get better and wish to reach my goals of playing professionally, steered me into looking at aspects of training such as strength training in the gym. I have since become passionate about using the gym as a tool to assist my basketball career; through the desire to become bigger stronger and faster, as this is an extremely sought after goal within the fitness and sport industry that all aspiring athletes want to achieve. Not only do I simply want to achieve these goals, but I enjoy the process and want to learn about how the body and the mind work in cohesion to create a successful athlete.

Going from secondary school to college it was clear to me that sports science would be extremely enjoyable and fulfilling as a course choice. This is because I aim to use what I learn about the processes of our bodies and our minds in performing sport to aid my own career. Since involving myself in the world of strength training I have become aware of the diversity of different approaches, and ways of training the body to achieve certain things depending on the sport. I have had first-hand experience of this as a first year student I started going to the gym, was fairly inexperienced, and I trained in certain way to build mass and strength. However, only later did I start to realize that this was at detriment to my shooting ability on the court, and it influenced my speed negatively. This is one of the reasons that I would love to take my learning about the science of sports to another level by undertaking a relevant degree, so I can learn even more about how the body works. Not only have I had first-hand experience of the physical side of sports, I am very conscientious when it comes to the mental side of sport. I have suffered from droughts of confidence in my basketball ability, and I understand that the mind is not constant and mentality can change over time through sport. Another goal I aim to achieve is to understand the 'secret' to having ultimate mental toughness in sports to be an elite competitor. The psychological side of sports science intrigued me because I understand the importance of an athletes mind set when competing at a high level, and this is what I aim to do.

My time at college has been a great learning experience for me because I have studied lots of different aspects of sports and had new sporting experiences as the captain of the basketball first team, in a very competitive Academy basketball league. Examples of some of my most enjoyed topics I have studied at BHASVIC include biomechanics, research methods, training at altitude in hypoxia, and influences of stress on athletic performance. One of the most challenging but rewarding tasks I carried out was a research project on a topic of my choice; I chose to focus on the link between music and physical performance. This assignment was useful from an analytical standpoint as it gave me a good understanding of how to comprise my own data with secondary research, and evaluate the outcomes of the research as a whole in order to conclude on whether there is a link between music and performance. The experience of these assignments at college has given me the tools necessary to study further into sports using different types of testing, such as correlation analysis and testing for difference. The satisfaction gained has given me the passion to really want to learn so much more about the diverse and fascinating world that is sports and the science behind it.

## PS Sport

Sport has the potential to inspire and teach valuable skills such as perseverance and teamwork, one of the reasons I would like to continue my study of the subject in higher education. From the scientific study of sport such as physiology and biomechanics, to practical aspects including coaching and fitness tests, I am eager to further my knowledge in a sporting environment and learn in greater depth about sports science. Currently I am particularly interested in issues surrounding sport and health, and the lack of focus on the importance of exercise. I am excited to learn about the relevance of sport and how this can be applied in order to improve people's lives.

For the past two years I have studied Sports and Exercise Science, Psychology, and English Literature. I thoroughly enjoyed Sports and Exercise Science, achieving awards for my work ethic engaging in activities both in and outside of the lessons. This course included a variety of assessments, from practical and group work, to individual tasks and essays, which helped me to develop a range of study skills. English Literature drastically improved my writing skills and analysis of information, which I was able to apply to other subjects, preparing me for study at University. Psychology is linked to sports science in many ways, helping me develop my understanding of human behaviour and motivation in sport. Psychology has also developed my independent research skills as we often conducted experiments and research tasks. During my current gap year I am studying additional BTEC Sport. Alongside theory elements of anatomy, physiology and much more, I attend Hove Lagoon 3 days a week to gain qualifications in windsurfing, paddle boarding and sailing, as well instructing qualifications in these sports. This has helped to further develop my scientific knowledge and taught me valuable skills such as leadership and teamwork.

I have achieved a Level 1 qualification in British Gymnastics Coaching and am currently working towards Level 2, which will enable me to run my own gymnastics club [and lead other coaching assistants](#). This has improved my communication skills through regularly liaising with parents, participants and other coaches to organise sessions and activities for children. I was employed as a junior coach to assist with the summer schools at C.A.C.L. Gymnastics Club. Learning about coaching has not only helped develop my experience in the social side of sport, but also about the body's capabilities and the theory and biomechanics of sport.

Additionally, I am offering tutoring and undertaken trips to Brighton University sports science labs, where we participating in gathering physiological information by conducting a VO2 max test. I really enjoyed this experience.

I have taken part in an abundance of extra-curricular activities, from netball to tennis, however the main activity has been gymnastics where I compete at a regional level for my club in both acrobatic and tumbling, and volunteer by coaching recreational sessions to younger gymnasts aged 5-10. My commitment is of a very high level and I am involved in volunteering, events and competitions throughout the year. Sport has so improved my confidence, resilience and many other transferable skills. I have also achieved a distinction and merit in grade 5 and 6 Ballet, demonstrating commitment to training and live performance. Completing the bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award has been an experience that has taught me valuable skills in leadership, initiative and not giving up, skills I have applied to other aspects of my life and will further apply them to university study. During my gap year summer I inter-railed through Europe for six weeks.

I am an extremely hard-working student who is always up for a challenge and ready to engage in any task or activity that comes my way. This, alongside new extra curricular activities, is one if the many reasons why I am looking forward to studying sports science at university.



## PS Theatre & Management

'I want to be in the room where it happens'. This quote from Hamilton inspires, motivates, and sums up my career aspirations in stage management and technical theatre. I have always felt an indescribable buzz when I walk into an auditorium which continues to excite me. As a result, I want to contribute, and be responsible for bringing entertainment and joy to many people.

Having known for some years that I do not always like being in the limelight, a theatre production career seems ideal. As the Stage Manager (SM) is very much 'at the centre' of theatre, working with different departments, creatives and cast in order to produce a show, I cannot imagine myself feeling more fulfilled doing any other job.

Educationally, I am a good all-rounder with excellent GCSE/A Level grades. I was the only student of 40 taking GCSE Drama that followed the Theatre Support pathway. This allowed me to develop some initial technical skills. I really enjoy the organisational aspect of stage management and demonstrated this in school productions for example, by introducing an alphabetical system to make costume distribution less chaotic and memorising the hat and torch numbers in Billy Elliot to make the changes more efficient.

While Theatre production was not available at my sixth form, my A levels can be linked to the course. In History, I studied the witch trials at Salem. As I knew The Crucible, it was fascinating to explore the context behind it. Studying Spanish enabled me to widen my knowledge about the arts in a different culture and will assist my ambition to work globally as a Stage Manager. Staying with a Spanish family in Salamanca meant frequently problem solving and thinking/communicating on my feet. Finally, Psychology, in a people-focused business, will always be useful.

Working in a supermarket café and a local Pharmacy has improved my resilience and teamwork skills, the former in a fast-paced environment and the latter in a customer-facing role. Similarly, interactions with Front of House colleagues while on ATG's Work in Theatre work experience scheme provided useful experience in a West End theatre location.

In terms of training, I took part in a Theatre Production Summer School in July 2019. In week 1 we covered different production disciplines leading to a sound/light show that I had to time-manage and lead regular updates for the whole group. Week 2 focused on chosen roles for a musical performed to summer school guests. For me, this involved sourcing props, attending rehearsals, meeting with the technical departments, noting cues, and finally being on the book for the performance. I finished the course feeling more confident, and proud of what I had achieved.

From last October, I attended two National Theatre courses. The 21-week 'Young Techs' course allowed me to further experience and better understand lighting, sound, stage, video and projection roles. I then took the four-week 'How to be a Stage Manager' course. This made me realise I wanted to specialise more on the people/organisational side of theatre. It also provoked an interest in the more creative aspects that come with being a Stage Manager. In addition, going to the National Theatre every week whilst also studying my A Levels improved my flexibility, multi-tasking, time management and organisational skills.

After becoming aware of the Deaf West production of Spring Awakening, I am interested in learning sign language and am driven to make theatre more accessible. This, and the prospect of further building up my general and specialist theatre production skills is highly motivating. I cannot wait!

3630 characters